FBIS DAILY REPORT

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Vol III No 027

8 February 1985

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ARBATOV, VELIKHOV COMMENT ON ATHENS CONFERENCE

LD072107 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 7 Feb 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] As reported earlier, a peace and disarmament forum took place in Athens. Our correspondent [not named but seen on video] met with Academicians Georgiy Arkadiyevich Arbatov and Yevgeniy Pavlovich Velikhov, who took part in the forum.

[Begin recording] [Velikhov] The Athens conference discussed the meaning of the declaration adopted by the meeting of six countries in New Delhi, and the ways in which those ideas could be put into practice. These ideas are very much in line with our thinking. This is, first of all, the task of nuclear disarmament, with a nuclear armaments freeze as the first step, and later as the path toward their full elimination. Another task is to prevent the stationing of any arms in outer space, a question which today is closely related to the problem of nuclear disarmament, arms race control, and stopping the arms race on the earth. The contemporary situation is such that -- according to the latest research into the consequences of nuclear war -- there can be no 'witnesses' or 'observers' of a nuclear conflict, even in the remotest corners of our planet. That is why today it is every man's duty to himself, to society, and to future generations to take part and exercise his influence on the future course of events. In this respect, it is very important that state leaders have now joined the movement along with states, a number of which in the past used to stand by, watching the conflict, so to speak, as 'outside observers'.

[Arbatov] Well, what could I add to what Yevgeniy Pavlovich said? The discussion in itself was, of course, very interesting. I think this could be seen as the first step -- the whole world, the whole nonnuclear world, on a governmental as well as public level, has indicated that it cannot afford to continue as a mere observer to what is being done in the sphere of nuclear armaments, and that it understands how much these things affect it. The voice of the nonnuclear world -- which is the greater part of the world -- should be heard and taken into consideration. It seems to me that this is a new factor, a new development in the struggle for peace.

There was also much discussion about the forthcoming Soviet-U.S. talks. Everyone's attitude to the talks was quite positive from the start, but at the same time, fears were expressed that along with the talks the arms race will continue: There will still be refusal to have a moratorium on all kinds of arms in space; the intensive development of new kinds of armaments will continue; the nuclear arsenals will continue to grow. So, the talks may turn out to be fruitless and even very misleading. It was pointed out that at this state, public opinion must intensify pressure particularly in this regard. [end recording]

Arbatov on Budapest TV

LD072315 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 2000 GMT 7 Feb 85

[From the "Panorama" program; no video available]

[Excerpts] Recently, responsible politicians, who are trying to help mankind ease the burdens weighing on our world, assembled in the Indian capital, New Delhi, and then in Athens, for diplomatic consultations.

In the Greak capital, there was a real star parade; the world took notice of the glitter of true political stars. At the invitation of head of government Papandreou, truly, as I said, the big names assembled from North, South, East and West, in Athens. Andras Sugar and Lorand Lukacs sent a report from there:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] A renewed Soviet politician is present. There always are many journalists aroung Academician Arbatov. Comrade Arbatov: We are from Hungarian television. In your opinion...

[unidentified] On moment -- are the Soviet television people here already?

[Second unidentified voice] They are not.

[First unidentified voice] Please, call them here.

[Unidentified reporter] To what extent can this meeting help the cause of the Gromyko and Shultz Geneva talks?

[Arbatov in Russian with superimposed Hungarian translation] I believe we all know well that the essence is that they agreed on the commencement of talks. It is generally known that we had sad experiences, because several long discussions were completely fruitless. Now, in the knowledge of what I know about the U.S. Administration and U.S. politics, I can say that there is no success in achieving anything without great pressure.

In order for us to achieve something at these discussions, there must be a sharp turn in American politics, renouncing their intention to acquire superiority in strength over the Soviet Union, renouncing the policy of force, the policy that threatens force.

All that has happened so far is that the rhetoric of the United States has changed [word indistinct], can be attributed to the pressure of U.S. public opinion, the pre-pressure of their allies, and Congress, as well as economic and other factors. However, this too must be approached realistically. Because the fact that they are talking is also part of the political fight it is not an isolated event, just as it also cannot be expected that they will sit down with us to talk and immediately reach an agreement. This is the continuation of the political struggle that is taking place in several spheres, within the United States itself, in the entire world, and on other fronts. In my opinion, this meeting right now is important really because it aims to activate the forces that are capable of intensifying this pressure.

[Reporter] Do the representatives holding talks here agree with your view, according to which space militarization must be prevented by all means? That something must be done about this?

[Arbatov] So far, I have not encountered here a single dissenting opinion. I believe that everyone present here is aware that the endeavors to extend the arms race into space unequivocally aim to doom to failure the cause of halting the nuclear arms race. The two problems can only be solved together.

[Reporter] In what concrete diplomatic measures can the effect of this conference be manifested?

[Arbatov] I would be able to answer this with great difficulty. In any case, the people present here are very influential politicians. Some of them are leading personalities, heads of state. Look in my contribution too, I said that now we have reached a period when armament goes on virtually of its own accord. However, if this continues, then within 2-3 years, we can reach the point of not being able to agree because of the new weapons, the new military technology. [end recording]

KORIONOV VIEWS FAITHFULNESS TO TREATIES

PM071206 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 85 First Edition p 4

[Commentary by PRAVDA political observer Vitality Korionov: "On Faithfulness to Treaties"]

[Text] The question of the principles on which relations between states must be built, and primarily between those states to which history has assigned particular responsibility for preserving peace, acquires exceptional significance at the present stage of world development.

These mutual relations must, in particular, be based on faithfulness to the international pledges given by the states and strict observance of treaties or agreements signed by them.

Such a course is not "traditional" for bourgeois diplomacy. The bourgeois world, V.I. Lenin concluded, is incapable of understanding the methods of socialist diplomacy and its frank and direct declarations. "This old world," Lenin said, "has its own old diplomacy which cannot believe that it is possible to speak directly and frankly. The old diplomacy feels that this in itself must be some kind of ruse." But there is no discrepancy between words and deeds in socialist foreign policy.

During the years when fascist aggression was gathering pace in Central Europe with support from world imperialist reaction, it was from the USSR that specific proposals, which aim to establish a collective security system in Europe, originated. But the USSR was not to blame that these proposals failed to materialize. If anything, the Soviet Union was even more persistent in laying the foundations of the structure of a coalition of states and peoples able to oppose the spreading fascist aggression. When the creation of the anti-Hitlerite coalition became a fact, the USSR set an example of faultless execution of its obligations as an ally. Suffice it to recall W. Churchill's admission: "I know of no other government that would be as faithful to its obligations as the Russian Government, even when it is to its detriment."

These efforts were appreciated among realistically thinking U.S. circles. This is how Harry Hopkins, close friend and adviser to F.D. Roosevelt, described the late president's views regarding the Soviet Union in the notes for a book he intended to write: "It is well known that we managed to fight shoulder to shoulder with the Russians in the greatest war in history. We know or believe that Russia's interests -- as far as we can foresee -- give no ground for serious differences between us in foreign affairs. We know that we are economically interdependent. We know that it is easy to do business with the Russians...I am convinced that not only do they have no desire to fight against us, but that they are fully resolved to occupy their position in world affairs in the international organization and that, above all else, they want to maintain friendly relations with us."

The Soviet Union consistently strove and strives to consolidate the positive experience of cooperation accumulated during the war years and to continue to weave relations of trust into the fabric of interstate relations. Addressing U.S. readers in connection with the publication of his book in the United States, Comrade K.U. Chernenko wrote that the Soviet Union advocates equal relations and the best possible relations with the United States on a broad range of issues. "We only wish," he noted in the address, "that our proposals be judged objectively and without any prejudice whatsoever. Prejudice and unwillingness to hear the truth have never brought any good to anyone, and today they may have the most serious consequences."

The United States today has no shortage of politicians who, assuming the prosecutor's role, try to convince people that the Soviet Union cannot be trusted and that it, you see, "violates the agreements it has signed." It has now become normal for such propaganda noise to be launched in the United States at times when the Washington ruling clique has to pass a new military budget much larger than the one before, and justify the new step it is taking toward exacerbating international tension.

This was exactly how matters stood, for example, on the eve of the signing of Presidential Directive 119, which aimed to implement a program of practical actions to prepare for "star wars." Some kind of "report" surfaced at that time from deep inside the U.S. government offices, whose compilers repeated over and over again the fabrications, refuted a long time ago, that the USSR supposedly violates the obligations it has undertaken. In the meantime, irrefutable facts contained in Soviet documents, and particularly in the Soviet memorandum submitted to the U.S. Government in January 1984, confirm the repeated violations by the United States of obligations it has undertaken, including those under the 1974 Treaty on the Limitation of Underground Nuclear Weapon Tests and the 1976 Treaty on Underground Nuclear Explosions for Peaceful Purposes, both of which, as is well known, were signed by the United States.

And now, when the administration is striving to push a huge new military budget through Congress at all costs and wrest from it appropriations for the production of space weapons, MX missiles, and other types of offensive weapons, people in Washington have resorted yet again to the very same methods: They have knocked together yet another slanderous "report" about some kind of "violations" of existing accords and agreements by the Soviet Union. It is no accident that K. Adelman, director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, used the following type of expressions when describing the report's contents: "The Soviet Union has, in all probability, violated," "has it in mind to violate," and so on, and so forth. Of course, this kind of official propaganda of mistrust and suspicion of the USSR that is put out in Washington can in no way be described as "helpful" to the forthcoming Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva.

So why do influential U.S. circles resort to such obnoxious means? Only because they would like to divert the peoples' attention from the fact that it was the United States that torpedoed the ratification of the SALT II treaty, is still boycotting the ratification of the aforementioned 1974 and 1976 treaties, is continuing the deployment of its first-strike nuclear missiles in West Europe, and is more and more definitely working toward transforming outer space into an arena of war.

The more dogged the implementation of the militarist course becomes, the more persistently its advocates search for ways of camouflaging their real designs. One of their favorite methods at the moment is to claim that the United States is striving to achieve agreements with the USSR, but the problem is that there are no facilities enabling one to effectively monitor the fulfillment of the agreements.

In fact, it has been confirmed over and over again by highly authoritative circles in the West among others, that the national technical facilities the sides currently possess are perfectly adequate for monitoring the observance of any treaties that have been signed.

But this is only one side of the coin. The other, even more important side, is that the USSR is forever putting forward proposals envisaging strict international control, which, naturally, presupposes the involvement of U.S. representatives as well. When it comes to the statement and solution of disarmament questions, the initiative has invariably come from the Soviet Union. You will recall that as soon as nuclear weapons appeared on the scene, the USSR put forward a proposal at the United Nations on banning these weapons forever. And, at the same time, the question of establishing the most extensive, general control was raised. In subsequent years the USSR consistently pressed for adopting the proposal on general disarmament under general control. What was the reaction of the Western countries, above all of the United States? As is known, they agreed neither to general disarmament and banning nuclear weapons, nor to general control.

So it is not a matter of control. What is it, then? The answer to this question is provided by the pronouncements of Washington politicians who are directly involved in determining the administration's course. It was K. Adelman who plainly stated that if the United States were to ratify the SALT-II treaty "it would be a dangerous precedent for future talks... because the criteria envisaged for the SALT-II treaty would be utilized, and SALT II would thus become a kind of supreme law for our country..."

What is it that these circles take exception to in that treaty? It is the fact that it is based on the principles of equality and identical security. Colin Gray, one of the "superhawks" in Washington, frankly stated that "the President must embark on the process of control with the firm resolve to annul the treaty on ABM systems and renounce observance of the SALT II treaty."

The true purpose of such entreaties is to destroy the entire system of treaties and agreements on which so much effort was expended during the detente period and to gain a free hand in creating an even more frantic arms race, including a race in space. One wonders whether this bears any relation to the monitoring of arms limitation and reduction agreements. It doesn't, of course.

Although there is an accord on holding new Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space armaments, by no means everyone in the United States likes the idea. For example, (L. Baylenson), one of imperialism's bellicose apologists, launches a savage attack in his "works" on the very idea that it is possible to have constructive talks between states with different social systems and to conclude treaties between them. "Treaties," he declares, "are traps and they should be avoided."

This approach is fundamentally wrong and particularly inappropriate at a time when there is a real opportunity to discuss and solve questions of vital importance for mankind. Only the strict observance of every portion of any accord reached at the upcoming talks can ensure real progress on the path to halting the arms race, eliminating the threat of nuclear war, and ultimately bringing about the complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

The peoples rate highly the frank and honest nature of the Soviet Union's policy. It is not accustomed to violating obligations stemming from treaties and agreements that it and other states have signed, irrespective of whether these agreements are bilateral or multilateral.

As far as the Soviet land is concerned, it is a matter of honor and pride to be true to accords. And this will be our country's guiding principle at the forthcoming Soviet-U.S. talks. One can only wish that the United States will at least be true to its word and its pledges and display responsibility for the destiny of peace.

CHERNYSHEV: U.S. TO CONTINUE ARMS RACE

LD071725 Moscow TASS in English 1641 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Moscow February 7 TASS -- By TASS military writer Vladimir Chernyshev:

Delivering a traditional address on the state of the union to a joint meeting of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress, the U.S. President R. Reagan proclaimed commitment "to seeking fair and verifiable" arms control agreements.

This is a reasonable, but, so far only declared, commitment. What is happening in reality? Practical steps made by the U.S. Administration provide no evidence of its striving to promote the search for mutually acceptable agreements.

An unprecedentedly big draft military budget proposed by the White House for the 1986 fiscal year, continuing buildup of strategic nuclear arms, Pershing-2 and cruise missiles, a three-fold increase in spendings on "star wars" programs, a further increase in appropriations for anti-satellite weapons come as evidence that official Washington intends to continue following the road of the arms race. How does that match the assurances of the U.S. President concerning his desire to "see the day when nuclear weapons are banned from this earth forever". If one follows the logic of the head of the U.S. Administration, the placing of 100 MX first-strike missiles in silo launchers, accelerated production of B-1 bombers, buildup of the nuclear arsenal of weapons for surface ships and submarines, etc. is to promote the "banning" of nuclear arms. Really, the declarations are at odds with reality.

As to Soviet-U.S. negotiations on nuclear and space arms that are to open in Geneva shortly, here, too, a clear inconsistency of the head of the Administration manifests itself. On the one hand, declarations about "big optimism", on the other -- obvious attempts to work up pessimism. Answering the question of newsmen on whether there existed a chance that an agreement would be concluded during the second term of his presidency, R. Reagan answered January 27 that he would not limit the prospects to four years. Moreover, speaking three days later before members of the Appropriations Committee of the House, the President said that he directed the U.S. delegation to the forthcoming Soviet-U.S. negotiations to get up from the table and return home if they are unable to conclude a "good" agreement with the Soviet Union, in other words, the agreement that would suit only Washington.

In his turn Robert McFarlane, presidential assistant for national security affairs, said that agreement on such vital problems as preventing outer space militarization (specifically, as regards work in the field of a large-scale anti-ballistic missile defense with space-based elements) is very doubtful. One cannot help wondering if the statement concerning the desire to negotiate and work toward agreement are aimed at misleading the public and appearing to be a "peace-maker" in the public eye, as well as to gain time for intensifying the arms race and spreading it into space.

Repeated pronouncements by U.S. Administration officials to the effect that Washington will not renounce the "strategic defense initiative", referred to as "star wars" program in the United States, will not agree to a moratorium on the testing of anti-satellite weapons, to be sure, do nothing to create a felicitous atmosphere for the Geneva negotiations.

The fact that the U.S. President promotes the program of work in the field of a large-scale system and the program for the deployment of MX missiles to the category of "top-priority" tasks as well as his current efforts to ensure a "potential success" of the forthcoming negotiations through getting congressional approval for huge appropriations for those programs can only have an opposite effect on the outcome of the Soviet-U.S. dialogue.

It is very simple to begin the negotiations, while at the same time carrying on with an active arms buildup, unfolding space programs and thinking nothing of achieving mutually acceptable results in the negotiations. Let other presidents cope with the problem of "incompatibility" of the negotiations with arms stockpiling, for American "democracy" does not prohibit that. However, such an approach hardly suits the peoples and government which firmly stand for improving the international situation, for an end to the arms race, for a peaceful cosmos, for ridding the earth from nuclear arms.

The Soviet Union does not regard the forthcoming negotiations as easy, it sees the existing complexities, and big ones, too. But, as Konstantin Chernenko said, they can be surmounted. For that purpose both sides should display good will, be prepared to reasonable compromises and strictly observe the principle of equality and equal security.

And of course it is inadmissible that any steps hindering constructive negotiations and contradicting the tasks facing them should be made.

U.S. COURSE TO 'MILITARY SUPERIORITY' ANALYZED

LD072133 Moscow TASS in English 2044 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Moscow February 7 TASS -- By TASS news analyst Leonid Ponomarev:

Preparations for "star wars", launched by the present U.S. Administration, will cost the Americans more than half a trillion dollars. This astronomical figure was given in THE NEW YORK TIMES by U.S. former Secretary of Defence James Schlesinger. The new military programmes will not only place an extra economic burden on the Americans and their allies, but will also create a serious risk of nuclear war worldwide. The term "star wars" is being ever more accepted in the American military doctrine. It describes the main direction of the U.S. Administration's military course directed at gaining military superiority in the world.

In a bid to deceive world public opinion, U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger presents the implementation of the plans of developing space weapons as the fairest and even the noblest of all U.S. undertakings. In the past, the first atomic bombs, and the first intercontinental ballistic missiles were presented by American militarists as the most ethical and humane means of annihilating people. With the help of similar camouflage, today's warlike American leaders intend to make the Americans accept the thought of inevitability of the spread of the arms race into outer space and, consequently, further growth of spending on various "super-weapons" of various kinds.

The present administration's military expenditures amounted to nearly one trillion dollars during the first four years in power. A large share was used to design and develop new types of armaments for would-be "star wars". It is claimed that the development of such armaments is only at "research" stage. The research work is, allegedly, far from concrete production of armaments.

At the same time, Weinberger told THE LOS ANGELES TIMES newspaper in November last year that possessing anti-satellite weapons, that is a system with some of its elements based in outer space, may play, for the United States, an important role. In this connection, they in Washington strongly object to introducing, even as a first preliminary step in agreement with the Soviet Union, a moratorium on the testing of anti-satellite weapons.

The U.S. stand is ambiguous and contradictory: On the one hand, Washington agreed to talks on space and nuclear armaments in their close inter-relationship, while, on the other hand, the ruling quarters in the United States insist that research and development of anti-satellite and anti-missile space-based systems are a kind of Washington's privilege. The Soviet side stands up for stronger security, deeper understanding and lower level of nuclear confrontation on a reciprocal footing, up to the total elimination of nuclear weapons on the basis of equality and equal security of the sides.

U.S. HAWKS' 'STAR WARS' STAND CRITICIZED

PM080951 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Feb 85 Second Edition p 3

[F. Andreyev commentary under the rubric "The Facts Reveal": "The 'Hawks' Have Not Calmed Down"]

[Text] In an interview with America's CNN-TV, U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger said the following when asked whether the United States intends to continue testing antisatellite weapons: "We were given the go-ahead by Congress to conduct tests after March 1985, and we plan to do so." Weinberger went on to declare without beating about the bush that the U.S. Administration neither intends nor wishes to halt work in the sphere of implementing the plan that even people in the United States itself call the "star wars" plan.

These statements by the Pentagon leader provide unambiguous evidence that influential forces do exist in the United States, which are trying to keep up at all costs the work on developing antisatellite weapons and a large-scale ABM defense system with space-launched components. The question automatically arises: Why is all this being done? Even more so in view of the fact that talks are due to be held on questions of space and nuclear arms. The joint Soviet-U.S. statement clearly says: "The objective of the negotiations will be to work out effective agreements which aim to prevent an arms race in space and terminate it on earth, limit and reduce nuclear arms, and strengthen strategic stability."

The Soviet Union is convinced that this agreement on the subject and objectives of the forthcoming talks contains the plan -- the only possible one under present-day conditions -- for solving the problem of nuclear and space arms. It is now impossible to limit, and even more so to reduce, nuclear arms without taking effective measures that would prevent the militarization of space.

Nevertheless, to judge by all accounts, influential circles in the United States have a different stand regarding this problem, which is most important for the fate of mankind. Nuclear arms are being built up there at an accelerated pace, as before, and space programs are being unveiled. There is an obvious desire to open up through space a path toward decisive military superiority over the USSR, with all the ensuing consequences for the cause of peace and international security.

J. Weisner, a well informed U.S. specialist in these matters, former adviser on science and technology to Presidents J. Kennedy and L. Johnson, and now honorary president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, convincingly shows how far the United States has progressed along the arms race path. "First of all, we must understand," J. Weisner says, "the extent to which America, marching along the road of the arms race, has started competing with itself and has thus created an atmosphere of militarism, turning into a society where the arms race is something natural." This, as the saying goes, is hitting the nail on the head.

The desire of Pentagon "hawks" to aim for the faster development of space-based strike weapons and turn space into a theater of "star wars" indicates that the prospect of reducing nuclear arms and preventing the militarization of space is, to put it mildly, not in accordance with the plans and intentions of U.S. ruling circles.

These forces make no secret of the fact that the objective of the "star wars" concept is to "destroy Soviet missiles" and "neutralize" a Soviet counterstrike. At the same time they are in favor of the United States building up its first-strike strategic means.

So, the simple but treacherous scheme of U.S. "hawks" who desire to attain world domination is to create a "space shield," from behind which it would be possible to wield the "nuclear big stick" with impunity; but they fail to take into account a simple truth: The intended target of the "star wars" will not be sitting idly by. "We are so strongly against the extension of the arms race to space not because we will be unable to respond to Washington's plans," Comrade K.U. Chernenko declared in reply to questions by a correspondent from America's CNN-TV. "If we were forced, we would do everything, as we have already done on many occasions in the past, to safeguard our security and the security of our allies and friends."

GENEVA CONFERENCE OPENING SESSION REPORTED

PM071527 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Feb 85 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent V. Kuznetsov report under the rubric "Events of the Day": "Time of Decisions"]

[Text] Geneva -- The routine spring session of the Geneva disarmament conference has opened at a particularly crucial time for the furture development of the entire international situation -- this is the opinion of many observers following the work of this important forum.

Addressing the first session, Soviet delegation head V.L. Israelyan stressed that the Soviet Union has favored and does favor support for all efforts which aim to avert a new war and strengthen the foundations of peace. This is the principled line of the Soviet state whose foundations were laid by the great Lenin himself.

One of the positive facts of the most recent period, he said, was the achievement of an accord on holding Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons. These talks, indeed like all efforts in the arms limitation and reduction sphere, must ultimately lead to the complete liquidation of nuclear weapons everywhere.

The disarmament conference can and must also play a considerable role in achieving agreements in the disarmament sphere. It is necessary, the speaker said, to begin practical talks on concluding a treaty totally banning nuclear weapons tests, to discuss the question of freezing nuclear arsenals as the first step toward their liquidation, to seek the adoption by all states possessing nuclear weapons of a commitment not to be the first to use these weapons, and to get down to elaborating a program for nuclear disarmament without delay.

The resolution of the question of averting an arms race in space is of paramount importance today. Finally, the conference has all the preconditions for achieving progress in the sphere of chemical and radiological weapons.

In conclusion, the head of the Soviet delegation cited the words of K.U. Chernenko, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman, that the "Soviet Union is ready for the most radical decisions to make it possible to advance along the routes leading to the ending of the arms race and to the banning and ultimately the complete liquidiation of nuclear weapons."

The need to adopt specific decisions and to strive politically to achieve mutually acceptable accords was stressed by Swedish delegation leader M.-B. Theorin in her speech. She pointed to the importance of the fact that the "USSR" and the United States have included the question of averting an arms race in space" in the upcoming Geneva talks.

Mexican delegation head Alfonso Garcia Robles stressed the urgent nature of the tasks involved in achieving accords on questions of nuclear disarmament because "the very fact of the existence of nuclear weapons poses a theat to mankind."

Bulgaria Submits Document

LD071746 Moscow TASS in English 1707 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Stockholm February 7 TASS -- At the Stockholm Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe, head of the Bulgaria's delegation Luben Petrov tabled on behalf of the delegations of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic and the Soviet Union a working document on the question of the limitation of the scopes of military exercises. The document suggests that the participating countries in the conference should not hold independently or jointly with other countries military exercises involviing a numerical strength of over 40 thousand in Europe and in the adjacent sea (ocean) areas and airspace.

This proposal, the Bulgarian representative stressed, is very topical since it is difficult to distinguish between large-scale military exercises and the preparatory stage of the deployment of armed forces for conducting hostilities, which is in itself the source of a serious threat to the security of states. Thus, NATO countries, for instance, conduct in Europe such exercises of the armed forces in which hundreds of thousands of servicemen participate, thousands of tanks, hundreds of planes and warships are used. Imposing a ceiling on the numerical strength of troops participating in exercises, would, undoubtedly, limit the scope of military activity in Europe and would thus strengthen the security of states.

The delegations of NATO countries have tabled a document on the exchange of the preliminary plans of military activity of states in Europe, which, however, does not lead to the lessening of the danger of military confrontation on the European Continent.

The conference continues actively discussing the working document on the basic provisions of a treaty on mutual non-use of military force, tabled by the Soviet delegation. The head of Austria's delegation Wolfgang Loibl said that this document provides a useful working basis for drawing up agreement on the renunciation of the use of force.

U.S., USSR EXPERTS DISCUSS SPACE MILITARIZATION

PM051249 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 2 Feb 85 p 3

[Interview with Academician Roald Sagdeyev and Walter Stoessel, heads of USSR and U.S. UN Organization delegations of New York meeting, by NOVOSTI own correspondent V. Simonov for KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA: "Frank Conversation" -- first two paragraphs are KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA introduction]

[Text] New York -- How to save the world from war? This, the main question of our time, is being discussed not only at high state levels but at meetings of various nongovernmental organizations. The UN organizations are among the most influential of this sort. They exist in virtually all countries that are members of this international forum.

A routine meeting between the Soviet and U.S. organizations was held in New York the other day; well-known scientists from both countries, leading specialists in the sphere of Soviet-U.S. relations, diplomats with ambassadorial rank, and university professors took part in it. The leaders of the USSR and the U.S. delegations comment on the discussion which took place.

Academician Roald Sagdeyev, director of the USSR Asademy of Sciences Space Research Institute:

[Sagdeyev] Our meeting's agenda reflected the most vital questions perturbing mankind; how to stop the arms race and above all how to prevent the potential threat linked with the placing of weapons in space. I refer to the U.S. Administration's intention to create a special so-called ABM defense system in space.

We also discussed the need to strengthen the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons and conclude a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty.

The exchange of opinions with the U.S. participants proceeded in a frank atmosphere. We did not always find a common denominator everywhere. Nevertheless, the meeting was constructive. I would like to note above all the widely representative nature of the U.S. delegation, which included authoritative and well-known experts, including so-called "technocrats" involved in the U.S. aerospace industry.

I must say that on one of the most acute questions -- the militarization of outer space -- we came to the unanimous conclusion that this question cannot be divorced from the problem of limiting strategic offensive arms. In my view, this is a gratifying result. But we certainly still have quite a way to go before we reach even relative mutual understanding on the substance of the matter.

[Simonov] Do you think that the course of your discussions was affected by the fact that they were held immediately after the Soviet-U.S. meeting in Geneva?

[Sagdeyev] Without any doubt. Many participants cited material from the Geneva meeting.

I think that it has given rise to the hope that the process of the constructive discussion of questions connected with the growing danger of war will continue.

Walter Stoessel, former ambassador to the USSR and leading expert in Soviet-U.S. relations:

[Stoessel] This is not the first time I have participated in such meetings between the Soviet and U.S. UN associations. The present one has been devoted to the topical question which my colleague Roald Sagdeyev has enumerated. I would single out the problem of strengthening the United Nations, which this year, as is well known, is celebrating its 40th anniversary. The year 1985 will also see a conference devoted to the renewal of the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and it was important for us to discuss the stands we are going to adopt at that conference.

In addition, the important Soviet-U.S. ministerial meeting has just been held in Geneva. Under its influence, the members of the Soviet and U.S. UN associations here in New York paid great attention to the problem of international security, particularly the prevention of an arms race in space.

[Simonov] And what is your assessment of the results of the talks in Geneva?

[Stoessel] I see them as positive. I think that it is very good that they succeeded in reaching agreement on the general framework for the future talks. This framework contains three interconnected areas: strategic nuclear arms, medium-range missiles, and weapons in space. There are, of course, many difficulties ahead of us, but it is good that dialogue has been renewed.

[Simonov] How fruitful were the 3 days of debate in New York, in your view?

[Stoessel] Each side came to understand the other better. An accord was reached on closer cooperation in the future, particularly where the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons is concerned. There was an interesting discussion of measures to limit the development of antisatellite systems. There was also a growth in mutual understanding regarding the United Nations itself.

Disagreements did, of course, emerge during our dialogue, but our discussion was nevertheless useful.

COLLECTIVE NATIONAL FRONT MEETING OPENS

LD071655 Moscow TASS in English 1315 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Warsaw, Feb. 6 [dateline as received] -- A three-day meeting of delegates from the national fronts of the 17 socialist and friendly countries from four continents opened in Warsaw today.

Addressing the gathering General Secretary of the National Council of the Patriotic Movement of National Rebirth (PRON) Jerzy Jaskiernia said that PRON aims to consolidate all patriotic forces in the Polish society around vital national interests and principles of the socialist system.

PRON pursues cooperation and exchange of experiences with national fronts in the brotherly socialist states and seeks contacts with progressive social movements in the developing countries, he said.

The discussion was initiated by chairman Jan Dobraczynski of the National Council of the Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth (PRON) who recalled that in 1985 entire progressive humanity would celebrate the 40th anniversary of the victory over nazism and Japanese militarism which, in the name of criminal aims, had launched the bloodiest of wars, and had committed the crime of genocide on millions of people.

The first to take the floor in the discussion was the first vice-chairman of the National Committee of the National Fatherland Front of Afghanistan, Mohammad Hasan Bareq Shafi'i who spoke about his country's struggle against the undeclared war waged by reaction and imperialism.

The national coordinator of the people's vigilance brigades in Angola, Baltazar Rodrigues da Silva, said: We are a nation whose state existence is being constantly threatened every day. The old colonialists and imperialists have not accepted the people's shape [as received] of Angola. They do everything to incite counter-revolution.

So, we must take up the struggle if we want to defend our people's state and its socialist shape. Fighting for peace on our soil, we are also fighting for peace for the world. We are not left alone, we are supported in this struggle by the prestige and strength of the entire socialist community, said the Angolan delegate.

The delegate of the Cuban Committees for the Defence of the Revolution, Juan Quiros recalled the numerous, repeated attempts by the United States to arrest the revolutionary processes in Cuba, the U.S. support for counter-revolution, political and economic aggression against Cuba.

The representative of the Nicaraguan Sandino Defence Committees, Felix Zerique Alvares, presented the steps taken in the defence of the people's revolution and stressed the determination of the social masses in Nicaragua in strengthening the progressive social and economic transformations, their faithfulness to and solidarity with all the nations fighting for their liberation and against all forms of imperialist domination.

Other participants in the discussion included national front delegates from Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the DPRK, the GDR, Kampuchea, Laos and Hungary who presented the achievements and plans of their organisations.

POSTERS PUBLISHED TO MARK WARSAW PACT JUBILEE

PM071026 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Feb 85 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Reliable Shield of Peace"]

[Text] A set of photomontage posters dedicated to the 30th anniversary of the Warsaw Pact has been published. The posters tell of the origins of the combat cooperation among Warsaw Pact member-states, the brotherhood-in-arms forged in the struggle against fascism during World War II, and the political and military cooperation of socialist community countries.

The constant leadership by the communist and workers parties of the work on defending the allied countries, building and developing the armies, and strengthening the Joint Armed Forces is one of the main principles of military cooperation between the socialist states. The creation and constant strengthening and improvement of the socialist countries' military-political defensive alliance provide a reliable shield which loyally serves peace and progress.

Under the conditions of today's international situation, which has become more complex through the fault of the United States and its NATO allies, the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Pact member-states constantly strengthen their unity and fraternal friendship and make collective efforts to prevent nuclear war. "Life proves convincingly," K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, emphasizes, "that for almost 30 years now this alliance has firmly defended the historic gains of our peoples and of peoples from the other allied countries and has had a favorable effect on the development of events in the world. It must be preserved and strengthened."

The poster set has been published by the USSR Ministry of Defense Military Publishing House. It will be a necessary aid in work on the international education of Soviet Armed Forces personnel.

ANTONOV ATTENDS CEMA MACHINE-BUILDING SESSION

LD071157 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1807 GMT 6 Feb 85

[Text] Moscow, 6 Feb (TASS) -- The first session of the CEMA Committee on cooperation in the Field of Machine Building, formed in accordance with the decisions of the economic summit of CEMA member-states and sessions of the councils, took place 5-6 February in Moscow.

Taking part in the session were: O. Doynov, member of the Politburo, secretary of the BCP Central Committee, Bulgarian minister of machine building; L. Marothy, member of the Politburo of the MSZMP Central Committee, deputy chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers; Nguyen Van Kha, SRV minister of engineering and metals; G. Kleiber, member of the Politburo of the SED Central Committee, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers; GDR minister for general, agricultural and automotive engineering; P. Miret, member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, deputy chairman of the Cuban Council of Ministers; C. Suren, deputy chairman of the Mongolian People's Republic Council of Ministers; Z. Szalajda, deputy chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers; N. Constantin, member of the RCP Central Committee Political Executive Committee, Romanian deputy prime minister; A.K. Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; and L. Gerle, deputy chairman of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

Also taking part in the session were: R. Pavlovic, member of the SFRY Federal Executive Council, chairman of the Federal Commission on Power Engineering and Industry; and also the secretary of CEMA, V.V. Sychev.

The USSR representative at the committee chaired the session

The committee reviewed draft regulations and also a number of other organizational questions. Particular attention was given to questions on implementing the most important tasks of multilateral cooperation in the field of machine building, emerging from the decisions of the economic summit of CEMA member-states and sessions of the council, connected with supplying the national economies of CEMA member-states with machines, equipment and instruments of a high quality and on a world technical level, on the basis of wide use of achievements in scientific and technological progress, development and deepening of specialization and cooperation in production.

Other questions on cooperation between CEMA member-states in the area of machine building were reviewed during the session.

The session of the committee took place in an atmosphere of friendship, mutual understanding and constructive comradely cooperation.

COMPARISON ON TIKHONOV AT CEMA COMMITTEE

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian in its 7 February First Edition front-pages a TASS report entitled "Meeting at the Kremlin" about Tikhonov meeting with the CEMA Machine-Building Committee. The article has been compared to the Moscow Domestic Russian version published in the 6 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT on page BB 3, under the subhead "Tikhonov Meets Committee," revealing the following variations:

Paragraph one, line two reads in PRAVDA: ...received on 6 February... (subbing "6 February" for "today")

Paragraph three, line one should read: ... Marothy, member of the... (subbing "Marothy" for "Marjai")

MARCHUK RECEIVES POLAND'S SZALAJDA, FRG BUSINESSMAN

PM071609 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Conversations Held"]

[Text] G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, received Z. Szalajda, deputy chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, on 5 February. During their conversation they discussed questions of further developing scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and Poland.

On the same day G.I. Marchuk received B. Beitz, chairman of the board of directors of the West German firm Krupp. They discussed the state of and prospects for cooperation between appropriate Soviet enterprises and the Krupp concern.

PHYSICIANS CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS ARMS RACE

LD071246 Moscow TASS in English 1100 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Los Angeles February 7 TASS -- Special TASS correspondent Yuriy Ustimenko reports:

A conference of "Physicians for Social Responsibility", a prestigious organization of doctors, opened today in Los Angeles, California. It is to discuss questions of the further intensification of the struggle of American physicians against the nuclear arms race and for removing the threat of a nuclear catastrophe.

The conference is to be addressed by prominent American scientists who are strongly opposed to the Reagan administration's dangerous plans to spread the arms race to outer space. Implementation of these plans, say the documents prepared for the conference, will lead up to a new spiral of the arms race and a further aggravation of international tension.

The only effective way to prevent a global catastrophe lies with serious and constructive talks with the Soviet Union, it is stressed in the documents. Participants in the forum stress the importance of the agreement reached between the USSR and the USA to begin in Geneva on March 12 Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space armaments. The new Soviet-American talks, they say, offer a chance for a serious and fruitful discussion of the problems of averting an arms race in space and stopping it on earth.

It was announced at a press conference, held before the first meeting, that a national campaign for the conclusion of a treaty on a complete and comprehensive ban on nuclear weapon tests will be held this year at the initiative of "Physicians for Social Responsibility."

Scientists from Britain, West Germany, Mexico and the Soviet Union have arrived here for the conference.

REAGAN ADMINISTRATION UNDERMINING UN PROGRAMS

LD071211 Moscow TASS in English 0645 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Washington February 6 TASS -- The Reagan administration intends to continue torpedoing the most important programmes of the United Nations Organisation in the social, economic and cultural spheres.

This is shown by the calculations of the U.S. Department of State prepared in the framework of the budget for the 1986 financial year.

According to those documents, it is intended, specifically, following the United States' quitting the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the annulment of all allocations for UNESCO's needs, also to cut by half on the present financial year the U.S. contributions to the activity of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), whose programmes now apply to more than 120 developing countries. It is planned to cut by 15 million dollars the United States contributions to the United Nations Agricultural and Food Organisation (FAO).

This openly hostile stand of Washington, its attempts to dictate its will to the international community are explained, above all, by the fact that the United States lost its dominant positions in the United Nations, has to take into consideratin the growing role in the United Nations activity of independent Asian, African and Latin American states which sharply criticise the United States' aggressive militaristic policy, its self-seeking attitudes in questions of international trade. High-placed representatives of the U.S. Administration, U.S. congressmen, constantly make crude sallies against the United Nations. The right-wing organisations close to official Washington such as, for instance, the "brain trust" of the right wing of the Republican Party, the Heritage Foundation, openly made calls more than once for the United States to quit the United Nations.

FINLAND'S TETTERMANN TO TOUR CSCE STATES

LD011257 Moscow TASS in English 1156 GMT 1 Feb 85

[Text] Helsinki February 1 TASS -- Richard Tettermann, a high-ranking official of Finland's Foreign Ministry, ambassador at large, has started on a consultative tour which will take him to the capitals of all states-participants in the conference on European security and cooperation. As the Foreign Ministry of Finland said, R. Tettermann will hold consultations as regards sponsoring in the summer of this year in Helsinki of a celebration function devoted to the tenth anniversary of signing of the Final Act of the all-European conference.

These preparations are being held in conformity with the decision, which was taken at the Madrid meeting of representatives of the states-participants in the conference on European security and cooperation.

REAGAN'S STATE OF UNION MESSAGE REPORTED

PM081421 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Feb First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Claims to Leadership"]

[Text] Washington February 7 TASS -- President R. Reagan delivered the traditional annual address on the state of the union to a joint meeting of Congress.

Touching on foreign policy issues briefly, the President declared the United States "commitment to seeking fair and verifiable arms agreements that would lower the risk of war and reduce the size of nuclear arsenals." He left no doubt, however, that his administration intends to conduct this quest from a futile "position of strength," making it clear thereby that it is an all-around buildup of the U.S. nuclear potential in an illusory bid to upset the rough strategic parity and achieve military superiority over the USSR, rather than the attainment of mutually acceptable arms control agreements that the White House regards as its top priority task.

The President, in particular, demanded that Congress rubber stamp in full the administration's military programs which provide for building up strategic offensive arms and other weapons of mass annihilation, mainly new MX ICBM's. As was already reported, the administration plans to appropriate an astronomical $322.2 billion for military programs in the next fiscal year.

The President went out of his way to promote plans to militarize outer space, claiming demagogically that the "star wars" program pushed by his administration aims "to deter war in the heavens and on earth" and even to save all of mankind.

The President needed such conentions, which contradict elementary logic, in order to try and bring down the mounting wave of protest both in his own country and abroad against the plans for militarizing outer space, which are fraught with a new, mortal threat for humanity. The administration head himself conceded that these plans are "not properly understood" in the world.

Reagan made open claims to American world "leadership," proclaiming the United States "a leader of the free world." It followed from his words that his administration is going to impose U.S. way on the world by means of raw force and subversive actions against the countries and regimes that do not suit Washington. Thus, he demanded that Congress earmark further funds to increase support for the counterrevolutionary gangs in CIA employ"from Afghanistan to Nicaragua," which he blasphemously called "freedom fighters."

He delivered malicious verbal attacks at the Sandinist revolution in Nicaragua, adding substance to the observers' idea that his administration is paving the way for a direct armed aggression against that Central American country.

In the course of Reagan's address the main emphasis was on domestic political problems. He speculatively passed off a cyclic upswing in the U.S. economy, which followed the deepest and most protracted recession since the time of the "Great Depression" of the 1930's as a result of the economic policy of the White House, the policy which he strongly advertised.

Contrary to commonly known facts, the President maintained that his administration allegedly fulfilled the promises given to the American voter in 1980, although the most important of them, such as the promises to "give a job to every American who can and is willing to work," to balance the federal budget by 1984, and to ensure America's "prosperity," remained on paper.

A new increase in unemployment figures was registered in January this year (the unemployment, according to official data alone, topped 8.5 million), while the budget dificit in the current fiscal year, in some appraisals, will top $210 billion, and make up no fewer than $180 billion in the draft budget for the next fiscal year. Over the years of Reagan's presidency the number of Americans with incomes below the official "poverty line" reached 35 million; up to 5 million Americans are homeless, sleeping outdoors, right in the streets. Against the backdrop of those facts, Reagan's pompous assertions about "a nation renewed," a "second American revolution of hope and opportunity," and his promises of "a fine future" allegedly in store for Americans sounded especially false.

The American public does not share the conventional optimism and militarist aspirations of the head of the administration. It demands effective measures to terminate the arms race, lessen the threat of war and resolve serious social problems. NBC-TV reports that, according to an opinion pool it conducted, a majority of Americans come out in favor of a freeze on appropriations for military purposes and urgent measures to balance the federal budget. Such sentiments are widespread on Capitol Hill as well. It is not coincidental that THE WASHINGTON POST wrote that the "special emphasis made by Reagan on the MX missiles, "star wars," and aid to Nicaragua counter-revolutionaries is explained by the fact that all those programs may well prove to be in jeopardy in Congress."

NAVAL CHIEFS REAFFIRM 'AGGRESSIVE POLICY'

LD071139 Moscow TASS in English 0901 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Washington February 7 TASS -- TASS correspondents Aleksandr Lyutiyy and Igor Ignatyev report:

The American Navy became one of the main instruments of the U.S. ruling circles in their global aggressive policy of armed interference in different parts of the world. This is reaffirmed by pronouncements which were made in Congress by Secretary of the Navy John Lehnam, Chief of Naval Operations Admiral James Watkins and Commandant of the Marine Corps General Paul Kelley. They spoke at the Senate Armed Services Committee which now discusses the Pentagon's budget for 1986 fiscal year.

As was overtly stated by John Lehman, the Reagan administration seeks to attain U.S. global superiority on the sea. The United States, he was echoed by Admiral Watkins, is a world power with global interests and obligations. He noted that the U.S. Navy and the Marine Corps have long been fulfilling the task of "rapid reaction" to international crises.

According to Watkins, in the period between 1946 and 1982 U.S. Armed Forces were used about 250 times abroad and U.S. naval forces were involved in 80 percent of such cases.

As is clear from the speech made by General Kelley, Marines are viewed by the U.S. Administration as the main "strike fist" of its so-called "anti-terroristic campaign". As was stated by Kelley, the corps are being equipped with newest armaments, transport facilities for very fast transfer of units and formations to a distance of thousands of kilometres from the United States.

A further rise in the strength of its personnel is planned in the next fiscal year. A special Marines Intelligence Agency was formed. "Anti-terrorism" courses are conducted at Marines training centres. The so-called "anti-terrorist manual" for Marines is being prepared. There is every indication that it is being drawn up by the pattern of the notorious bandit "manual" of the CIA with instructions of how to kill and destroy in the most sophisticated way. That manual was distributed among anti-Nicaraguan terrorists.

GOSBANK DEPUTY RECEIVES SENATOR MATHIAS

PM071611 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Feb 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] On 4 February V.S. Alkhimov, deputy chairman of the USSR Gosbank, received U.S. Senator C. Mathias, who is in Moscow at the invitation of the USSR parliamentary group. There was a talk on questions of Soviet-U.S. trade, economic, currency, and financial cooperation.

CHANGES IN U.S. ADMINISTRATION POSTS NOTED

PM071545 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 7 Feb 85 First Edition p 3

[V. Zubok article: "Washington Reshuffle: The Latest Change in the Political Kaleidoscope on the Banks of the Potomac"]

[Text] R. Reagan's victory last November gave heart to many supporters of the anti-Soviet, militarist course in the United States who are hoping to consolidate their positions in the higher echelons of power. After all, they are the ones who controlled the Dallas convention that adopted the President as candidate for a second term. The "extremists," however, could not hide their disappointment: The tide of victory did not bring them decisive advantages.

U.S. political commentators recognize that there can be no question of a return to the situation where the Congress meekly passed bills taken straight from the Republican program, which resulted in a sharp increase in military spending, a taxcut for America's affluent citizens, a reduction in the social aid program, and a rapid growth of the federal budget deficit. U.S. commentators feel relations between the executive and the new Congress will be difficult, and that Congress itself will be more "obdurate" that in previous years.

The Republician faction in the Senate (two-fifths of the members of this faction are due for reelection in 2 years) descended on Capitol Hill after the winter break with the firm intention of cutting the budget deficit, which totals almost $200 billion. This problem, which seriously darkens the already somber horizon of the U.S. economy, has clearly influenced the changes in the Senate leadership. Of the five conservative Republicans vying for the vacant post of leader of the Senate majority, the choice fell to Robert Dole -- a politician reputed to be a most "pragmatic" figure who is "not dependent" on the administration. The vacant post of Finance Committee chairman went to R. Packwood who is a long way from the "diehard" right. Dole's first move was to organize a delegation to the White House where the senators tried to convince the President that the struggle against the budget deficit was inconceivable without considerable reductions in military appropriations.

Nor is there any question of a strengthening of position for the extreme right on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee where the position of chairman fell vacant after the election defeat of the moderate Republican C. Percy.

Richard Lugar, the new head of the committee -- and a solid supporter of the President -- refused to appoint anyone from the liberal wing but made it clear, however, that he would not tolerate any Republican "die-hards" on the committee.

In brief, the concern with the country's economic health and the arms race has extended to a certain part of the U.S. political "elite" which has affected the whole chain of changes in congressional leadership. Scarcely had the head of the White House delivered his second "inaugural" address that this chain encircled the White House affecting the administration itself.

The mass media have long been spreading rumors about a power struggle among different groupings in the President's entourage and about clashes between the "pragmatists" and the staunch conservatives -- that is, between those who advocate nuclear arms agreements with the Soviet Union and the need for firm measures to combat the budget deficit and those who oppose them. People expected that Reagan, if reelected, would have to "put his own house in order" and, in particular, somehow smooth over the disagreements between Secretary of State G. Shultz and Pentagon chief C. Weinberger. The names of Shultz and J. Baker -- the White House chief of staff -- have been mentioned in connection with possible retirement.

So far many of the predictions have not materialized: Changes have occurred in the administration's personnel which do not lend themselves to readymade or simple interpretation.

A number of ministerial posts have remained in the hands of people on the right wing of the Republican Party. Former Energy Secretary D. Hodel has become the interior secretary and J. Harrington, the President's personnel director, has replaced him as energy secretary. W. Bennet has been appointed education secretary. In the Reagan administration, however, these posts do not guarantee any particular influence on the shaping of government policy. The attempts by certain particularly loathsome right-wingers to lay claim to paramount roles have not met with success. This was tacitly acknowledged by Interior Secretary W. Clark (formerly the President's national security adviser) when he decided to return to profitable private business. J. Kirkpatrick's efforts also proved to be in vain. She has now retired and is returning to teaching at Georgetown University.

The "switchover" of J. Baker and D. Regan was a noticeable and highly significant link in the chain of replacements. "Don" Regan, the new White House chief of staff, made his career in Wall Street's financial circles. Under his leadership the firm Merrill Lynch grew into a major international banking company and the leader himself acquired a multimillion-dollar fortune (in 1980 his income was $700,000). Regan is not simply yet another millionaire in the administration, but a clear representative of the Wall Street faction that discerned in Reagan a real political force long ago and long before anyone else. As treasury secretary he was the most consistent exponent of "Reaganomics" and thereby earned the President's complete trust.

J. Baker was rewarded with the comfortable seat at the Treasury Department for his loyal service and may boldly aspire from it to the post of governor of Texas or even higher... People are pinning their hopes on him in connection with the implementation of the tax reform and of measures designed to bridge the "budget gap."

...Politically, Washington has passed another important transition stage. What does the latest personnel changeover indicate? Clearly, the Reagan administration's 4-year course has engendered a whole series of problems which seriously alarm the ruling class.

A certain section of that class is now looking doubtfully at the penetration of the political "kitchen" by rabid militarists, arrogant Californian wheeler-dealers, and "hard-nosed" careerists from the extreme right wing of the Republican Party.

But the right-wing conservative forces remain strong. A Republican administration would not be true to type if it forgot its pedigree. Some people in the administration are hoping to form from these very forces a backbone of the United States' political rulers for the next few years. The executive branch cannot ignore the powerful pressure of the realities of life and has therefore been forced to scheme and to change around the figures in the kaleidoscope in an attempt to derive as much propaganda and practical profit as possible from the reshuffle.

...According to D. Regan, neither he nor the President "have any further political ambitions or personal plans, apart from the federal targets of the administration's second term. The future will show how true that is. As for the past, it has already shown repeatedly and convincingly that neither the playing off of one group against another nor the endless reshuffling or "rearrangement" of the upper echelons of power will in themselves serve to embellish the history book account of any particular presidency. Statesmen are judged by their actual policy and by their efforts to carry out historic tasks -- particularly those on which world peace depends.

NEW EPA DIRECTOR THOMAS WHITE HOUSE 'PAWN'

LD080759 Moscow TASS in English 0755 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] Washington February 8 TASS -- The U.S. Senate has approved the appointment of Lee Thomas, a high-ranking official of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), as EPA director.

Thomas is the third person appointed director of the Environmental Protection Agency over the years of the Reagan administration in office. The agency has been plagued by major scandals. Their cause is criminal negligence of environmental protection norms and an indulgent attitude to big business which in pursuit of maximum profits fouls America's flora and fauna. Suffice it to say that Ann Burford, the first EPA director appointed by President Reagan, had to resign in disgrace after it had been found that the agency squandered about six billion dollars allocated for clearing toxic industrial waste dumps in the country.

Although Thomas has pledged to observe U.S. environmental protection legislation unswervingly his pronouncements are received here with bitter irony. The new EPA director is but a pawn of the White House concerned mainly with the interests of big business rather than nature conservation and protection of citizens' health.

MINUTEMAN III REPORTED DESTROYED IN FLIGHT

LD071225 Moscow TASS in English 1008 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] New York February 7 TASS -- An inter-continental ballistic missile Minuteman III which was launched from the U.S. Vandenberg Airbase was destroyed over the Pacific Ocean, when a problem was detected in its mechanism by ground services, the AP news agency reported today.

Fragments of the missile fell into the ocean, causing no damage to anybody, the news agency stressed. But these and other accidents linked with the American nuclear missile weapons are giving rise to concern of the world public, since these present an obvious danger to people. Recently a Pershing-2 missile caught fire at the U.S. military base in Heilbronn, West Germany. The missile was in direct proximity of a depot with nuclear warheads, which could have led to irreparable consequences.

PROTOCOL WITH U.S. ON ENVIRONMENT NOTED

LD061427 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1310 GMT 6 Feb 85

[Text] Washington, 6 Feb (TASS) -- A protocol has been signed here concerning the meeting held in Washington of the working group on problems of the influence of changes in the environment on the climate. This working group is active within the framework of the Soviet-U.S. agreement concerning cooperation in the sphere of environmental conservation. The document envisages continuation of scientific cooperation in the sphere of study of the climate in the framework of research into the state of the environment.

CANADIAN PARLIAMENT DEBATES U.S. DEFENSE TREATY

LD071242 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Our correspondent Aleksey Melnikov reports from Ottawa:

For the first time in 20 years sharp debates flared up in the Canadian Parliament over the renewal of the routine treaty with the United States on the joint air defense of North America. It runs out in March 1986. Why is it that heated polemics are starting in Parliament precisely now, long before that date? The thing is that a change which substantially changes its former interpretation was found in the text of the treaty signed last time. Briefly, it said that Canada's obligations in the NORAD system do not provide for active participation in the organization of strategic antimissile defense. In the 1981 treaty, this phrase was replaced with another one: In view of the special importance of the airspace in defending North America, the governments of the two countries will seek ways of expanding cooperation in observing the airspace and exchanging the necessary information relating to North America's defense.

Strangely enough, no one noticed this at the time. The treaty was signed by government officials without wide publicity. At present, when the United States and Canada are discussing the creation of a new antimissile and air defense system, everyone has suddenly noticed these words. They already opened the way for testing American cruise missiles on Canadian territory. There is an even greater danger in the star wars program proclaimed by the Reagan administration. Drawing Canada into this adventure will have grave consequences for it. Many eminent statesmen demand that before the future treaty is signed, it should be presented to parliament for wide and thorough discussion.

PRC ARMS STAND AIDS OPPONENTS OF DISARMAMENT

LD072132 Moscow TASS in English 2107 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Moscow February 7 TASS -- Official representatives in China make quite contradictory statements on the Soviet-American accord on the subject and aims of talks on nuclear and space arms, the NEW TIMES weekly writes in its latest issue. "Used most often are Beijing's pet variations on the subject of 'two super powers' which supposedly are equally responsible for the continuing arms buildup, are equally guilty of the absence of progress in arms limitation and both pursue the same selfish aims. Quite casually Washington is credited with the initiative in organising the Geneva meeting and in approaching the disarmament problem as a whole".

"More than that", the weekly points out, "some Chinese commentators are prepared already now to predict the possible outcome of the talks on nuclear and space arms even before they have started. They actually predict their failure. The Beijing magazine LIAOWANG, for instance, writes that Soviet-American talks are 'talks for the sake of talks', a 'dialogue of the deaf' and that the new talks in Geneva supposedly will be no exception. While making such statements the Peking commentators do not take the trouble of finding out which side is right or wrong and of getting to the crux of the matter. In this, just as many other obstacles, the Chinese side claims the role of a sort of arbiter who bluntly 'exposes' others".

"What but obvious prejudice can explain the fact that the constructive position of the Soviet Union, its vigorous activity to curb the arms race does not get an objective evaluation in China?" - the weekly queries. "Attempts to cast aspersions on the Soviet Union are not evidence of an objective approach to the issue.

NEW TIMES points further to the inconsistency of the PRC's line of behavior at the 39th session of the United Nations General Assembly. On the one hand, an important resolution directed at preventing the militarisation of outer space gets the Chinese delegation's support. On the other hand, there is a totally different stand on a whole number of important items on the agenda of the United Nations General Assembly related to the prevention of nuclear war and limitation of the nuclear arms race.

The Chinese delegation did not support a single draft resolution on freezing nuclear arms tabled by socialist and non-aligned countries and found itself in the small group of countries that abstained during the vote. Neither did the Chinese representatives support the resolution of socialist countries on the non-first-use of nuclear arms that was approved by majority vote. The Chinese delegation abstained when the resolutions on banning nuclear weapon tests based on drafts submitted by socialist and non-aligned countries were adopted by an overwhelming majority vote by United Nations member states. Lastly, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolutions on the prohibition of neutron weapons, on the limitation and reduction of naval armaments, on the spreading of confidence-building measures to seas and oceans. And again the PRC delegation abstained...

"The reluctance to give active support and joint and efforts of other states along important direction of struggle to limit nuclear arms, the attempts to place responsibility on others, to present the Soviet Union as the culprit of tension in the world play into the hand only of the opponents of disarmament," the weekly stresses in conclusion.

PRC'S BURGEONING PRIVATE SECTOR EXAMINED

PM081041 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Feb 85 Morning Edition p 4

[S. Agafonov report under the rubric "From the Pages of the Chinese Press": "Eloquent Percentages"]

[Text] It would be no exaggeration to say that information connected with the development of the economic trends generated by the policy of the economic reform implemented in China in recent years constitutes one of the chief topics of articles in the Chinese and foreign press devoted to problems of the internal situation in the PRC.

A considerable number of these articles describe the active growth of private enterprises in China. For the Western mass media the numerous examples attesting to the development of the private sector create a foundation for various kinds of tendentious commentaries about the supposed "indisputable merits of capitalist management methods" and so forth.

At the same time, the actual rate of development of private enterprise in China cannot fail to attract attention. As the XINHUA agency reported, in the past 6 years the number of people employed in the private sector has increased eightyfold and, as of the end of 1984, totaled 11 million in trade and industry. Of these, there were 2.7 million in the cities and 8.4 million in the countryside. The numbers of those employed in the private sector in the countryside in 1982-1984 quintupled. According to the Chinese press, 120,000 trucks (one-half the entire motor vehicle transport pool) and 2.8 million tractors (mainly low-duty vehicles, but 68 percent of the country's tractor pool) are in private hands. In the country's retail trade turnover the proportion in private hands is 11 percent, according to Chinese figures.

Since the end of last year a perceptible revival of private enterprise in the cities has been observed. According to information conveyed by XINHUA, more than 2 percent of urban workers and employees are now employed in private trade and consumer services. Private practice in health care has been authorized, and a private taxi pool and a private training college have appeared. Not a day goes by without reports of this nature coming out of China.

In PRC periodicals a new term has appeared -- the "third industry" (this implies the trade and services sphere), in which "private enterprise" plays the key role.

At the same time articles are being published which expose the actions of individuals who are involved in machinations and "economic crimes," or who have yielded to the "vicious infection" brought to China by elemental market forces. All this shows that the active development of nonstate structures in the country's economy is currently under way in China.

S. KOREAN OPPOSITION LEADER BEATEN, ARRESTED

LD080727 Moscow TASS in English 0722 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] Tokyo February 8 TASS -- According to reports from Seoul, well-known political leader of South Korean opposition Kim Tae-chung, who returned home today, was beaten by police at the International Kympho Seoul Airport. Tens of thousands of people came to meet Kim Tae-chung who returned after two years of emigration. When he and his party approached the building of the airport the "limbs of the law" started beating them. Then Kim Tae-chung was drove home under reinforced guard and placed under house arrest.

The Chon Tu-hwan clique pounces repressions on opponents of the regime on the threshold of a farce of general elections for the National Assembly scheduled for February 12. On Thursday Seoul secret police placed 20 prominent oppositional leaders under house arrest.

MOSCOW ON SUCCESS OF FISHERY TALKS WITH JAPAN

OW051135 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 4 Feb 85

[From Soviet-Japanese exchange program, "Friendship and Good-Neighborliness"; unattributed report: "The Way to Mutual Understanding"]

[Text] An extraordinary meeting of the Soviet-Japanese Fishery Committee, which had been going on since 15 January at the USSR Fish Industry Ministry in Moscow, closed last week. The meeting had on its agenda a wide range of problems of very great significance to Soviet and Japanese fishermen.

It cannot be said that the talks went smoothly. Suspended temporarily on 20 January, the meeting resumed on 27 January after much difficulty. To bring complicated issues to an early settlement, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Moriyoshi Sato hurriedly visited Moscow to hold talks with Soviet Fish Industry Minister Kamentsev. On 1 February, Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, met with Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Sato.

Well, what were the results of the Soviet-Japanese fishery talks? First of all, both sides agreed to assign each other 600,000 tons as their respective fish catch quota in 1985. Agreement was also reached on a very complicated matter. It concerns port calls by Soviet fishing boats at Shiogama in Miyagi Prefecture and by Japanese boats at Nevelsk in Sakhalin.

Signing the protcol and other documents were First Deputy Minister of Fish Industry Kudryavtsev, head of the Soviet delegation, and Director Hiroya Sato of the Japanese Fisheries Agency. The protocol and other documents prescribe the number of Japanese boats allowed to enter within 200 nautical miles of Soviet waters, the types of fish allowed to be caught, the duration and areas of operation by both sides, and other technical matters.

Present at the signing ceremony were Fish Industry Minister Kamentsev, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Miriyoshi Sato, and Japanese Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Moscow Yasue Katori.

The heads of the two delegations spoke on the occasion. In his speech, Mr Sato, noting that decision acceptable to both sides had been made at the talks, said:

[Begin Sato recording] In view ofthe truly difficult international fishing environment today and the positions Japan and the Soviet Union find themselves in, I think it is necessary to ensure the future of Japanese-Soviet relations in the fishery area based on mutual understanding and cooperation.

Keeping in mind that in its long history the Japanese-Soviet relationship in the fishery sector has been a deep bond linking the two countries, I think that it is possible for both sides to continue exerting further efforts.

Finally, I would like to express my deep thanks to the officials concerned of both sides for their efforts in bringing the talks to a settlement. [end recording]

Soviet Fish Industry Minister Kamentsev, addressing the negotiators, said:

[Begin Kamentsev recording in Russian fading into Japanese translation] As Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Sato has just said, we must view our mutual relationship as a stable one over a long period of time. I fully agree with this. The Soviet Union and Japan are neighbors and are also among the leading fishing countries in the world. I think that this is a reason why our fishery relations are very stable and have stayed that way for dozens of years.

Our relationship has also become a multilateral and diversified one. I mentioned this when I met you yesterday. This is due to our participation in many multilateral agreements and our cooperation in the scientific, technological, trade, and economic sectors and also in government-level cooperation.

Our two countries, the Soviet Union and Japan, cooperated with each other even before the advent of the 200-nautical-mile era and when a temporary decision was made on the 200-nautical-mile limit. The two countries are still cooperating with each other today when economic zones have been established everywhere and a 200-nautical-mile agreement has been signed between the Soviet Union and Japan.

It is quite natural for differences to arise between the two sides in the course of talks. For this reason, negotiations are held to achieve mutual understanding. What I wish to emphasize, and the most important thing, is that, in the dozens of years that we developed our fishery relations, as both sides came to the negotiating table and discussed whatever problems there were, not once did we fail to find the way to a solution. This clearly shows that the fishery officials concerned of the two countries understand each other's positions and proves that they respect each other's interests as a demonstration of goodwill.

I fully support the positive evaluation of Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Sato of the efforts made by the two delegations. [end recording]

'TEXT' OF PDPA LETTER OF PROTEST TO CHINA

LD071017 Moscow TASS in English 0953 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Kabul February 7 TASS -- Follows text of the letter of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China:

Comrades: The Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan deems it necessary to point out, through sending this letter to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, to the increasing interference of China in the internal affairs of Afghanistan and to its increasing support to the counter-revolutionary forces which are fighting against the Afghan revolution. Undeniable facts point to the increase of such support. Among the weapons captured from the bandits, along with weaponry sent from the United States of America and other NATO member countries, more weapons are noticed with the "Made in China" mark.

China has openly waged a hostile campaign against the revolutionary regime in Afghanistan. Resort is being made in this campaign to lies and slanders and assistance is being rendered to the promotion of a negative view of our new system and people. Chinese official representatives are openly talking about the continuation in the future of huge military and other assistance to counter-revolutionary bands who are committing crimes on the soil of the Afghans.

Such a stand causes our legitimate protest. The more so because such a position has been adopted by the People's Republic of China which has tasted the whole enormity of imperialist oppression and has gone through the ordeals of the revolutionary liberation struggles. We know what a great price the toiling masses of China have paid for the victory of the People's Revolution and what great sacrifices and deprivation they have accepted for its sake. The People's Liberation Army of China was forced to continue an arduous and long struggle for liberation, first against the Japanese occupationists and then against Kuomintang forces which depended on the support of imperialist circles, first and foremost of the United States of America.

It is well known that during this struggle the Communist Party of China enjoyed vast political and other forms of assistance from the Soviet Union. The uprooting of Japanese Kwangtung Army in Manchuria in 1945 effectively assisted the Chinese Red Army in its struggle for the liberation of China from Japanese occupation as well as the domination of the Kuomintang.

It was expected that China which has gone through such trials would have come out in support of the April 1978 Revolution, because Afghan patriots were fighting and are still fighting, in many respects, for the same goals for which thousands of Chinese revolutionaries sacrificed their lives during the years of revolutionary liberation war. The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, fought for more than a decade for the victory of the revolution under the difficult conditions of clandestine struggle.

We have fought, and are still fighting, for the independence of Afghanistan, for the liberation of the Afghan people from poverty, ignorance deprivation and backwardness, from the oppression of landlords, feudals and usurpers, and for building a society void of the exploitation of man by man.

The Afghan revolution was carried out against Dauod's despotic regime and for the welfare of the people. Already the revolution has brought so many things for the people and has every right to be proud of its initial achievements.

Production of the national economy in the year 1983 has increased by 15 per cent in comparison with the year 1981. This increase in the state and mixed sector amounted to 24 percent.

Democratic land and water reform is being implemented in Afghanistan which results in the raising the living standard of rural population. Different forms of collective economic cooperatives are being developed. 308 agricultural cooperatives, 138 consumer and trade cooperatives and 140 cooperative stroes have been established. These are all just the initial steps.

From 1979 to 1983 twice the salaries and wages of workers and employees of state sectors were raised. Twice the purchasing price of cotton and sugar beet from the peasants were increased. The state is spending huge budget allocations for subsidizing primary commodities towards price stabilization in the interest of workers and employees as well as subsidizing city transportation. During the past five years the number of doctors -- by 45 percent. More than one million illiterate people have received education and have become literate.

The party is following the constant policy of developing genuine democracy in the country. Already our sovereignty is based on the developing unity of workers and peasants and is reflecting the basic interests of all Afghan toilers and patriots. The establishment of this sovereignty is the most important achievement of our revolution.

Right now we have taken a new step towards drawing ever increasingly the toiling masses into participating in state affairs, in the first place in their localities. According to a new law, people's assemblies (jirgahs) and their executive committees will become new organs of power and administration in localities.

These committees will consist, on a just basis, of representatives of patriots of all nationalities, tribes and ethnic groups. The on-going democratization of power and administration in localities is being implemented for the sake of strengthening and consolidating the unity of administration with the people and for assisting the faster and complete solution of problems in the interest of the toilers. The party is attaching great importance to social mass organizations and considers them the most important elements of the new political system. The influence of trade unions, coopertives, youth and women's organizations and other organizations established in our country after the revolution is being expanded.

Thus, we have every reason to claim that constructiveness and progress comprise the nature of our revolution.

Revolutionary Afghanistan could have achieved during these years more successes if forces which are striving to keep Afghanistan in the back alleys of history and to perpetuate the sorry situation of backwardness and poverty, did not act against Afghanistan. It is the criminal activities of these forces which are preventing the complete manifestation of the constructive nature of our revolution and the further expansion of possibilities for improving the living conditions of the people. Feudals, their lackeys and stooges, tribal chieftains, comprador bourgeoisie and other elements who have been deprived of the privileged position in the society have rallied against our revolution. They have succeeded in attracting, under false slogans, a number of backward people having a low level of knowledge. There is no doubt that the enemies of the Afghan revolution would have been crushed very rapidly if they were not supported from abroad by U.S. imperialism and the reaction of the region. These forces are the instigator and organizer of the "undeclared war" against revolutionary Afghanistan.

Class hatred towards social progress, towards genuine freedom of peoples, and efforts towards establishment of a bridgehead at the southern borders of the Soviet Union for aggressive activities against it, are the motive of reactionary forces in their hostile activities against the Afghan revolution.

However, when the unity of imperialism, reaction of the region and the Afghan counter-revolution is based on class interests and on efforts to strangulate all liberation and democratic movements, the participation of the People's Republic of China in such a union is completely unnatural. How it happened that a country which is talking so much about revolution and social progress is assisting imperialism and different reactionaries who have united on the basis of their hostility to revolution and progress. [sentence as received] In other words, how it happened [as received] that such a country is assisting -- if proper names are used -- the direct heirs of those who wanted to submerge the Chinese Revolution in a bloodbath.

It would have been understandable if agricultural technology, tractors, foodstuff and machinery were imported to new Afghanistan from China and if Chinese experts worked shoulder to shoulder with Afghans for economic and cultural rehabilitation of our country and the elimination of the feudal-tribal legacy. However, instead bands armed with Chinese weapons are dispatched to our country from abroad to kill the eldery and the children, to burn down schools, hospitals and mosques and to prevent peaceful constructive work with the use of such weapons.

The People's Republic of China has put at the disposal of the counter-revolution mortars, recoilless artillery, anti-tank rocket launchers, anti-air weapons, infantry weapons, rockets and other military hardware. Our soldiers, who are repelling the barbaric attacks of internal counter-revolution and foreign forces hostile to Afghanistan who are supporting them, have captured huge quantities of such weapons. 300 reactive rockets and 12-barrel rocket launchers made in China are among these lethal weapons.

On the territory of China, in Xinjiang, special camps have been established in the vicinity of DRA borders where Chinese instructors are training and arming counter-revolutionary bands which are then dispatched to Afghanistan to fight the legal government. Hundreds of Chinese instructors are training Afghan bandits in training centers on the territory of Pakistan. Futhermore, last summer around two thousand heavy machineguns, one thousand anti-tank rockets, about half a million light infantry weapons were put at the disposal of hired counter-revolutionaries through the Pakistani Army.

A question arises as to how could all these acts be reconciled with the statements made by Chinese leaders on their support for the revolutionary liberation struggle of peoples. Such a policy is void of a class-oriented stand and results from consideration which are unknown to real internationalists.

Your position vis-a-vis the presence of Soviet Union military contingent causes our resolute opposition. This contingent is in Afghanistan on a legal basis and in accordance with the United Nations Charter and the treaty of friendship, good-neighbourliness and cooperation between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union signed in December 1978. We would like to remind you that a certain times the Soviet Union in pursuance of the noble principles of internationalist solidarity, has rendered vast military assistance to the People's Liberation Army of China. You used to receive military equipment and weaponry from the Soviet Union. All the equipment and weapons of the one-million strong Kwangtung Army which was defeated by the valorous Red Army in 1945 were granted to you. Soviet military advisors served in the ranks of the People's Liberation Army of China.

In times Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai, Zhu De, Liu Shaoqi have in turn confessed to the share of the Soviet Union the victory of the Chinese people over Kuomintang and its supporter, i.e. U.S. imperialism. Why Soviet military assistance to revolutionary China was welcomed, but the right of our revolution for such an assistance is denied? An open contradiction lies in this stand of yours.

We Afghan revolutionaries, do not have hostile feelings towards the Communist Party of China and the great Chinese people. At the time Afghanistan fully and resolutely has supported the acceptance of new China in the international community, as a full member, including in the United Nations and the Bandung Conference. We want to live with you in friendship and goodneighbourliness and want to develop mutually beneficial and equal relations with you. For this end the only thing necessary is for China to forgo its hostile policy towards the Afghan Revolution and to stop supporting the counter-revolutionary forces. This is in accordance with the interests of our two peoples and the cause of global peace.

With comradely regards,

PDPA Central Committee

TASS ON U.S. 'FORCED CONCESSION' TO AUSTRALIA

LD071941 Moscow TASS in English 1859 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Washington February 7 TASS -- Talks have ended between the United States Secretary of State George Shultz and the Prime Minister of Australia Robert Hawke, who is here on an offical visit. As it was stated by the secretary of state of the United States, it was decided at the talks that Australia will not take part in the testing of American MX strategic missiles.

Officials in the Washington administration contend that the United States had adopted this decision almost "voluntarily". But in his statement to newsmen Robert Hawke admitted that during the talks he had expressed the concern existing in Australia over this matter. THE NEW YORK TIMES writes today that Hawke had clearly disappointed American officials.

Local observers stress that Washington's forced concession was made in face of mass public protests in Australia against attempts to draw that country into Washington's dangerous plans to create new nuclear systems. The White House had to retreat so as not to expose the ANZUS bloc, which is shaky as it is, to the danger of total collapse. This bloc consists of Australia, the United States and New Zealand. Despite open threats and strong pressure from the United States New Zealand is keeping firmly to its decision to keep American naval ships with nuclear arms on board out of its ports.

During the American-Austrialian talks, UPI agency writes, Hawke stated Australia's opposition to the Pentagon's programmes of spreading the arms race to outer space and stressed the need to hold talks on the limitation of nuclear arms and lessening the threat of nuclear catastrophe. In this connection even the official spokesman of the State Department had to admit the existence of difference between the two countries in the approach to concrete issues.

U.S. SAID PLANNING SANCTIONS AGAINST NEW ZEALAND

'Major Duties' on Commodities

LD080750 Moscow TASS in English 0740 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] Washington February 8 TASS -- The Reagan administration, infuriated by New Zealand's refusal to allow an access for American warships with nuclear weapons aboard to ports of that country, has started drawing up economic sanctions against Wellington.

At the press conference which has been held here a representative of the Department of State said that the administration did not intend to support all sorts of benefits for New Zealand in the sphere of trade which were earlier granted to it as an important U.S. strategic ally. New Zealand's decision "will not rest there" for it, he said in menacing tones. Thereby the Department of State supported relevant resolution which was submitted to U.S. Congress by right-wing Republican Senator William Cohen. [sentence as received] In practice they will signify introduction of major duties on New Zealand's commodities and a short reduction of U.S. purchases on a whole number of commodities in that country.

Parliamentarians' Visit Canceled

LD07175 Moscow TASS in English 1723 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] New York February 7 TASS -- The U.S. Administration has undertaken another demarche with regard to New Zealand in response to its government's refusal to allow American ships carrying nuclear weapons to enter New Zealand ports.

According to THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, the American side cancelled a visit to the United States by a group of New Zealand parliamentary deputies. One of the delegation members, Jeff Braybrook, criticized Washington decision and said that the cancellation of the visit is directly linked with differences between the United States and New Zealand over the access for American ships with nuclear weapons to New Zealand ports.

A U.S. State Department spokesman made clear at the height of the crisis that Washington intends to subject New Zealand to "exemplary punishment" so that its example not be followed by other U.S. allies in military blocs.

Defense Minister Tour Postponed

LD072244 Moscow TASS in English 2026 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Washington February 7 TASS -- The United States has decided to put off "indefinitely" a visit by New Zealand Defense Minister Frank O'Flynn to Hawaii, the site of the headquarters of the U.S. command in the Pacific and Indian Oceans, planned for this month. This was announced by official spokesmen for the New Zealand Government, who pointed out that the American side had not given any explanation of its unilateral decision. But, as UPI news agency noted, the latest U.S. demarche in relation to New Zealand should be seen as another "reprisal" to punish the Wellington government for its categorical ban on the call to a New Zealand port of an American nuclear-capable ship.

Earlier Washington, demonstrating its frustration with Wellington's anti-nuclear policy, refused to take part in the joint naval maneuvers of the United States, Australia and New Zealand, which are regularly held under the codename of "Sea Eagle." Following that move, the American Administration cancelled a planned visit to the United States by a delegation of New Zealand parliamentarians. According to a White House spokesman, the U.S. Administration is considering also other "actions".

'Anti-New Zealand Hysteria'

LD072313 Moscow TASS in English 2120 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Moscow February 7 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Boris Chekhonin writes:

According to reports of U.S. news agencies, Wellington's decision to deny port access to U.S. nuclear-armed warships caused a new bout of anti-New Zealand hysteria in Washington. One of the evidence is that Senator Cohen, member of the Armed Services Committee, advanced a draft resolution on the "punishing" of New Zealand by a ban on the resumption of a trade agreement between the two countries. As is known, that agreement provided to New Zealand the most favoured nation treatment, which is of particular importance for New Zealand as far as its export of wool and meat to the United States is concerned. At the same time, the Pentagon, enraged by Wellington's daring to "strike at the very heart of the ANZUS bloc" came out with a range of threats.

Washington has other, also political, reasons to bring pressure on Wellington. Washington fears that New Zealand's decision might cause a new outbreak of anti-American protests, protests against the U.S. adventuristic policy in the area.

It is no secret that many countries of the region have long been declaring for turning the Pacific into a peace zone, demand that ships of the U.S. Seventh Fleet, the shock nuclear force of the USA, be barred access to the area, that France, a NATO member, should not be allowed to make nuclear tests in the area. Voices demanding the liquidation of U.S. military bases in the continent start sounding ever louder in Australia that has been "loyal" so far.

Broad anti-war movement in Australia has even led to the creation of a new political party "for nuclear disarmament."

And what about the influence of New Zealand's decision on Japan with its long-standing traditions of anti-nuclear movement, its horrible experience of serving as a U.S. nuclear range where on the decision of the White House hundreds of thousands of people were destroyed in Hiroshima and Nagasaki? It is feared in Washington that New Zealand's decision might give a fresh impetus to the anti-nuclear movement in Japan, to the struggle against Japan's being turned tinto a nuclear hostage of the United States. Moreover, a lot of such attempts are made. U.S. nuclear submarines and warships already make calls at Japanese ports. U.S. F-16 fighter bomers, nuclear delivery aircraft, are stationed at the Misawa military base. Going by statements in the Japanese press, a dialogue on Japan's renunciation of its three non-nuclear principles, about the planned deployment of U.S. missiles with nuclear warheads on Japan's territory, is being held behind closed doors in Tokyo and Washington.

This is a far from complete list of the reasons which are obviously at the basis of the anti-New Zealand hysteria unleashed in the USA.

USSR-INDONESIA DIPLOMATIC ANNIVERSARY HAILED

PM061143 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Feb 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Greetings Telegrams"]

[Text] There was an exchange of greetings telegrams between the USSR Foreign Ministry and the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Indonesia on the 35th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations.

The USSR Foreign Ministry telegram points out that during these years the Soviet Union and Indonesia have accumulated rich experience of fruitful mutually advantageous cooperation in many spheres. History provides many examples of our countries' cooperation with a view to ensuring international security and preventing nuclear war. The hope is expressed that Soviet-Indonesian relations will continue to develop for the good of our countries' peoples and in the interests of strengthening peace in Asia and throughout the world.

In his telegram, positively evaluating the development of Indonesian-Soviet cooperation, the Indonesian foreign minister voices the hope that it will expand further within the framework of bilateral relations and at international forums. The telegram points out that peace and disarmament are key problems of the present day. Confidence is expressed that in the present complex international situation Indonesia and the USSR jointly with other states will continue to promote the safeguarding of peace, stability, and prosperity on both a regional and a global scale.

CONTINUED THAI SHELLING ACROSS PRK BORDERS NOTED

LD072228 Moscow TASS in English 2039 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Phnom Penh February 7 TASS -- Thailand is continuing its provocations on the border with the People's Republic of Kampuchea, the SPK Kampuchean news agency reports. In the week from January 24 to 31 border areas of Siem Reap and Battambang Provinces were subjected to numerous artillery shellings from the Thai side. There are casualties among the local population and much material damage was inflicted.

Under the cover of Thai artillery fire groups of Khmer reactionaries tried to cross into Kampuchea to commit acts of subversion and terror against the local population. Men of Kampuchea's People's Revolutionary Army repulsed the intruders. Some 200 Pol Pot bandits were incapacitated and large quantities of arms and equipment were seized.

During the same time reconnaissance planes of the Thai Air Force intruded several times into the air space of Koh Kong Province. There were also violations of the Republic's sea border by Thai vessels. In fact during that week there were hundreds of such violations in the area of the Koh Kong and Koh Tang Islands.

HUNGARY'S MAROTHY MEETS WITH ALIYEV 6 FEB

PM071205 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Strengthening Cooperation"]

[Text] On 6 February G.A. Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received L. Marothy, member of the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo and deputy premier of the Hungarian Council of Ministers, who is in Moscow in connection with the holding of the first session of the CEMA Committee for Cooperation in the Sphere of Machine Building. An exchange of opinions took place on questions of further developing and strengthening Soviet-Hungarian cooperation.

N.V. Talyzin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, S. Rajnai, Hungarian ambassador to the USSR, and G. Kovacs, deputy chairman of the Hungarian National Planning Office, took part in the conversation, which was held in a warm, friendly atmosphere.

NEPSZABADSAG EDITOR CITED ON HUNGARIAN ECONOMY

PM071619 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 85 First Edition p 4

[Article by Janos Berecz, member of the MSZMP Central Committee and chief editor of NEPSZABADSAG, under the rubric "Fraternal Paper's Platform": "Beneath the Banner of Common Ideas and Aims"]

[Text] Budapest -- the 13th MSZMP Congress will be held in the second half of March, and not long after that we will be celebrating the 40th anniversary of Hungary's liberation and the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism. This period will be filled with very important political events determing the entire social atmosphere and its intensity. What have we done in recent years? What have we achieved? How is socialist Hungary's international policy developing?

The MSZMP Central Committee theses for the 13th congress are in keeping with these key questions of life. They are under public discussion at the moment, mobilizing the masses and increasing their activeness, and channeling their efforts in the direction of socialist creation.

What is the first thing to observe? In far from straightforward economic conditions and deteriorating international relations -- whereby we have been forced to confine ourselves to a moderate development rate and to cut consumption -- Hungary has nevertheless managed to make progress. The power of the working people is sound here. Socialist national unity is strong. The domestic political situation is stable. The Hungarian people share and support the party's policy.

Anyone familiar with our country's history must acknowledge that the social stability achieved since 1956 is based on our party's creative and consistent application of the ideas of Marxism-Leninism. Now Hungarian society, which is building socialism, is filled with vitality and permeated with the spirit of an innovative approach. The party backs efforts that contribute to new advances and initiates them itself. The exchange of opinions, the putting forward of enterprising proposals, and the discussion taking place at the moment in connection with the MSZMP Central Committee theses for the congress must also help us to advance and unearth unexplored reserves and to deepen socialist thinking and national consciousness.

In performing its leading role the party, through the ideological institutions, is taking every step to ensure Marxist replies to the new questions that arise in the course of socialist development and the changes taking place in the world. It is an important ideological and political task to react immediately to views that distort our principles and to expose aspirations that are alien to socialism.

The centers of international imperialism hoped that the complicated international situation would weaken the socialist countries' economic stability and security and force their leaders to abandon the very successful domestic and foreign policy they were pursuing in the detente period. Despite extremely complex international conditions Hungary has managed to remain solvent and protect its positions in the process of international division of labor, and it has made progress in the implementation of domestic political tasks.

Despite the cooling of the international atmosphere, our country is continuing to maintain its foreign policy and diplomatic activity, initiating cultural exchange, and developing tourism, which demonstrates the strength and openness of socialist society. This gives rise to an even greater need to protect our socialist values from outside pressure and imperialist circles' constant attempts to disrupt and erode socialist society, using the most perfidious means and methods, sabotage, and "psychological warfare" to that end.

In the last 3 years the U.S. State Department has held two conferences at which experts have discussed possible ways of exploiting the economic reforms taking place in the socialist countries and the measures being carried out to deepen democracy, in order to weaken the ruling communist and workers parties' leading role in society. The socialist states are consistently improving the system of economic management and extensively developing genuine people's democracy. U.S. imperialist circles, seeking to sow doubts, are twisting the facts and trying to suggest that the aforementioned changes allegedly bring socialist society closer to the Western world. So they measure all elements of Hungary's economic quest by their own yardsticks. The authors of articles about Hungary in the bourgeois press indulge in withful thinking by writing about the "capitalist methods" of management we are allegedly using. Our party has always held that the Hungarian economy is a socialist economy and the methods employed by it contribute to the building of socialism. We have a planned, socialist economy, and our economic regulators serve the interests of socialist building.

We want to make it clear to the whole world that the steps being taken in our country, in particular the economic reform, are aimed at even more successful socialist building and the better solution of the tasks facing socialist society. Our state's foreign policy is based on the ideas of proletarian internationalism and the principles of peaceful coexistence among states with different social and political systems.

It is an old bourgeois propaganda hobbyhorse to exaggerate and highlight differences between individual community countries' practices stemming from historical traditions and specific conditions. It zealously tries to play on the national feelings of the socialist countries' peoples and to poison them with nationalism.

The basic guarantee of the protection of our positions and the successful promotion of the common cause is the correct, principled, and realistic policy of the ruling Marxist-Leninist parties aimed at solving the key tasks facing the peoples in the building of a new life.

We are linked to the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries by a multitude of threads. However, we are solving similar tasks in different ways because conditions differ from country to country.

These differences will never lead to misunderstandings and will never affect our friendship if we all bear in mind the conclusions of the 26th CPSU Congress. It noted that during the years of socialist building the fraternal countries have accumulated a large variety of positive experience of production organization, management, and the solution of national economic problems. In this connection it pointed out the need for careful study and utilization of the fraternal countries' experience in practical activity.

The MSZMP Central Committee theses for the 13th congress point out that the Hungarian People's Republic is a reliable link in the community of socialist countries. The most important aim of its foreign policy will continue to be to make its contribution to the universal cause of peace and social progress and thereby ensure favorable international conditions for socialist building. The deepening of Hungarian-Soviet friendship is our especially important and paramount task in meeting fundamental national interests.

Comrade Janos Kadar pointed out in his concluding speech at the 12th MSZMP Congress: "...We want to ensure that both friends and enemies know and that everyone understands that, if Hungarians say 'Yes,' it means 'Yes And if they say 'No,' it means 'No'!... We want to be loyal allies for our allies: This is how it is! We want to be loyal friends of our friends: This is how it is! With regard to others, when conducting talks and reaching agreement we are proper, honest partners who keep their word, and we want to remain such partners!"

Our party will continue to pursue such a policy expressing the Hungarian people's vital interests and, assuming historical responsibility for the building of socialism, will continue to develop and deepen under the sign of common ideas the identity of basic interests and aims and fraternal ties with the socialist countries, the Soviet Union, and the CPSU.

OPENING OF GOMULKA MUSEUM IN WARSAW NOTED

PM071645 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 85 First Edition p 5

[O. Losoto dispatch: "A Loyal Son of the Party"]

[Text] Warsaw -- The 80th anniversary of the birth of Wladyslaw Gomulka, prominent figure of the Polish and international communist and workers movement and one of the founders of the Polish Workers Party and the PZPR is being widely marked in Poland. He devoted his entire life to the cause of the working class, the building of socialism in Poland, and the cause of rallying the socialist community. W. Gomulka was a consistent champion of Soviet-Polish friendship and alliance.

A memorial museum opened today at Krosno, in the house where W. Gomulka was born and lived. Exhibits include documents illustrating the life, party, and state activity of one of the leaders of the PZPR. By decision of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo, the party publishing house Ksiazka i Wiedza will publish an anthology of W. Gomulka's works in several volumes.

25TH FRENCH CP CONGRESS BEGINS ACTIVITIES

PM071320 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 85 First Edition p 4

[Dispatch by PRAVDA and TASS correspondents I. Shchedrov and Yu. Lopatin: "In the Working People's Vanguard. The 25th French Communist Party Congress Has Begun Its Work"]

[Text] Paris, 6 Feb -- The regular, 25th, Congress of the French Communist Party [PCF] -- the combat vanguard of the country's working people -- opened today in Saint-Ouen, a proletarian suburb of the French capital.

Over the course of 5 days the 1,722 delegates to the PCF's supreme forum -- emissaries of the more than 600,000-strong detachment of French Communists -- are to analyze in depth and discuss urgent problems of contemporary France, which, like other capitalist countries, is in the grip of an acute crisis, and also the international situation, which has recently become more complex, and draw up a program of struggle for the next few years in defense of the working people's interests, against the nuclear missile threat and Reagan's crazy "star wars" plans, for disarmament and peace and the strengthening of international solidarity with all the world's revolutionary and progressive forces.

Delegations have come to the French Communists' congress from more than 100 fraternal communist and workers parties and national liberation movements, as well as other progressive organizations. The CPSU delegation is headed by M.S. Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee.

There was broad discussion of the congress draft resolution in all PCF organizations for several months preceding the congress.

"Over the past 2 years," the draft resolution emphasizes, "the great hopes that were being expressed in the spring of 1981 gradually gave way to sharp dissatisfaction. The depth of this dissatisfaction is shown by the loss of the positions of the socialist party and the PCF in the election to the European Parliament in June 1984. Because the authorities that headed the country as a result of the 1981 election proved unable to justify the aspirations of those who elected them and refused, when forming the new government, to take into account the significance of their vote in the election to the European Parliament, a new situation took shape in the country. The Communists drew the appropriate conclusions from it, adopting the decision in July 1984 to no longer participate in the government."

There was an appreciable increase in pressure from Washington, which secured a number of concessions from Paris in the direction of its rapprochement with NATO, France's active participation in the arms race, and support for the plans of the United States and the NATO leadership to deploy new American nuclear first-strike missiles in West Europe.

The congress will focus its attention on problems of the crisis of capitalism and its consequences for France, Gaston Plissonnier, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PCF Central Committee, declared in an interview with the weekly L'HUMANITE-DIMANCHE. Evaluating the period since F. Mitterrand's election as president, he emphasized that the experiment begun in 1981 has failed, and the responsibility for this lies with the Socialist Party. The PCF struggled to ensure that the pledges adopted by the left forces were fulfilled. After a time the Socialist Party, on the contrary, consigned its statements and promises to oblivion.

At the opening of the 25th congress its delegates and guests were greeted by (Jean Andros), mayor of the Ile Saint-Denis commune where the Supreme Forum of the French working people's combat vanguard is taking place.

The PCF Central Committee report on the party's activity and tasks was delivered by PCF Secretary General Georges Marchais.

ZIMYANIN TO LEAD SOVIET DELEGATION TO FRG

LD061848 Hamburg DPA in German 1612 GMT 6 Feb 85

[Text] Bonn, 6 Feb (DPA) -- The Soviet parliamentary delegation that is expected to pay an official visit to Bonn in the spring is to be headed by Mikhail V. Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and vice chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Nationalities' Soviet of the Supreme Soviet. This information was given today by Vladimir Semenov, the Soviet ambassador to Bonn to Helmut Schaefer, the foreign policy spokesman of the FDP [Free Democratic Party] group and chairman of the German-Soviet parliamentary group in the Bundestag.

According to Schaefer, Semenov said that the high rank of the delegation leader was intended to underscore the importance of German-Soviet relations. Schaefer said that the first visit in 9 years by a Soviet parliamentary delegation would facilitate an early return visit by a Bundestag delegation to Moscow and help clarify questions now being debated.

FRG BACKERS OF SPACE ABM SYSTEM SCORED

PM041135 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Feb 85 Morning Edition p 3

[Colonel V. Lavrov article under the "International Observations" rubric: "Someone Else's Voice"]

[Text] The U.S. Administration's plans to militarize space and create a large-scale ABM system involving space-based elements are provoking protest among broad strata of the world public, including that in the North Atlantic bloc countries. Seeking to reassure its allies and dissipate the extremely negative attitude of these countries' populations to the U.S. military's new adventure, which this time is in space, the White House has launched a noisy campaign. Its aim is to justify the "star wars" concept in West Europeans' eyes. Washington has also found "assistants" in the ruling circles of a number of European NATO states, who, by command from across the Atlantic, have defended the dangerous American plans. Official FRG spokesmen have particularly stepped up their activity. A series of articles they wrote on this theme have appeared in the West German press in the last few days alone.

The articles by the West German "star war" advocates (in the mold of H. Ruehle and other "space experts") do not of course contain anything new. They merely parrot word for word what American propaganda channels have long been telling us on this score; A case of wanting to get in on the act. Immediately in the wake of the Pentagon spokesmen, FRG "experts" claim that the creation and deployment of a large-scale ABM system involving space-based elements is merely a harmless and exclusively defensive move designed to strengthen strategic stability. They claim that U.S. actions in this sphere do not contradict the provisions of the 1972 Soviet-American Treaty on the Limitation of ABM Systems, which is of an unlimited duration. They also misinform the public with claims that the United States simply has no choice but to embark on creating a comprehensive ABM system with space-based elements, since the Soviet Union has either long been developing such a system or indeed already has one.

To lend greater "credibility" to their arguments they try to make capital out of the fact that the USSR has an air defense system, whereas, it is well known that this has nothing at all to do with ABM defense.

At the same time the West German advocates of space militarization carefully cover up the fact that a large-scale ABM system, given the existence of strategic offensive arms, becomes an integral part of the strategic offensive potential of the side that has created it, and that it undermines the strategic balance of forces and destabilizes the situation. They bend over backwards to try to prove that the term "star wars," which, incidentally, first saw the light of day in the United States, is inaccurate and should be discarded. But, on the other hand, they say nothing at all about the fact that the Washington administration's very posing of the question of creating an ABM system involving space-based elements is tantamount to an attempt to undermine the Treaty on the Limitation of ABM Systems, which unequivocally bans any territorial ABM systems.

The character and thrust of the above-mentioned articles in the West German press leaves no doubt that they were inspired by Washington. Whence another wholly false thesis, namely that the Reagan administration's intention of creating an "ABM shield" above U.S. territory also means increased security for the European NATO countries, since all this will create a "more reliable deterrent" to the USSR.

This is a familiar theme. The FRG leaders came out with similar "predictions" earlier, when they called on West Europeans to agree to the siting in West Europe of new American medium-range missiles designed to deliver nuclear first strikes against the territory of the Soviet Union and its allies. And it is well known how all that ended. The peoples of West Europe, and above all of the FRG, quickly saw that the transatlantic "Euromissiles" did not enhance their security. On the contrary, the practical result of the move was to turn the West European countries that accepted new U.S. missiles into a target for a nuclear counterstrike.

When creating new weapons systems the last thing the Pentagon concerns itself with is the Europeans' security. And the "star wars" idea is no exception here. The large-scale ABM system for the United States is conceived as a "shield" under whose cover it would be possible, according to its devisers, to carry out a nuclear first strike on the USSR and its allies. This strike would naturally bring into operation the U.S. medium-range missiles sited in West European countries. The defense against a counterstrike, however, is only envisaged for U.S. territory. No matter how hard those across the Atlantic try to maintain that they are also concerned with the "defense" of West Europe, their statements fool no one. And even the Pentagon specialists themselves who are actually in charge of the large-scale ABM program are acknowledging with increasing openness that their entire space enterprise is conceived as a cover principally for U.S. strategic missile bases, that is to say, as a means of acquiring strategic superiority over the USSR and the ability to deliver a surprise nuclear strike.

The U.S. "tiered ABM umbrella" has no "echelon" to defend West European NATO countries. The West German politicians' statements in support of the Pentagon's schemes therefore acquire an ominous meaning -- they are clearly designed to worsen the situation on the European Continent and to intensify nuclear confrontation here. Anyone can see that the USSR and its allies will not sit calmly by while the balance of forces, whether strategic -- between the USSR and the United States -- or European, is disturbed and that it will take the necessary countermeasures to reestablish the equilibrium. And the actions of those West German circles which would like to steer the course of events along the fatal path that suits Washington signify nothing else but total disregard for the interests of their own people.

FRG DEPUTY SAYS MORE MISSILES TO BE DEPLOYED

PM071447 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Feb 85 Morning Edition p 1

[Dispatch by own correspondent Ye. Korolev: "FRG-United States. Dangerous Game"]

[Text] Bonn -- According to information in the possession of Social Democratic Party of German Bundestag Deputy Hermann Scheer, by the end of the fiscal year the United States is to produce 167 Pershing II missiles in addition to the 108 missiles of this type to be produced under NATO's "two-track decision" and the warheads for all 275 Pershing II missiles are already in the FRG.

H. Scheer has demanded, in a parliamentary question, that the Federal Government confirm or deny this information, which comes from the U.S. House of Representatives Armed Services Committee. Commenting on Scheer's question, the Bulletin PARLAMENTARISCH-POLITISCHER PRESSEDIENST stresses that medium-range missiles like the Pershing II cannot be used against the USSR from U.S. territory. Hence the conclusion that it may be surmised that the Pentagon does not intend to restrict itself to 108 Pershing II missiles, but is planning to deploy another 167 missiles of this type in the FRG. Moreover, it can count on the Federal Government for mutual understanding in so dangerous a game.

U.S. CONVENES COCOM FOR TOUGHER USSR TRADE TERMS

LD080022 Moscow TASS in English 2248 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Washington Februarv 7 TASS -- The Reagan administration has started another round of pressure on its Western European allies in a bid to force them toughen terms for trade with the USSR and other socialist countries. As announced here, an American delegation headed by Under Secretary of State William Schneider left for Paris with this aim in view. The delegation will take part in a U.S.-convened session of the notorious Coordinating Committee of East-West trade policy (Cocom), which controls export to socialist countries.

Established during the worst period of the cold war, Cocom remains an instrument of sabotaging economic ties between East and West. To Washington's dictation, it complies notorious lists of "strategic goods" banned for export to socialist countries. In recent years, the Washington administration, having embarked on the course towards confrontation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, applied much effort with a view to invigorating the activity of Cocom, dubbed "economic NATO."

According to a statement by a U.S. Administration official, carried by THE WASHINGTON POST newspaper, the American delegation will press at the forthcoming Cocom session for maximum improvement in the body's effectiveness with a view to toughening procedures of considering applications for trade deals with socialist countries.

Local observers recall in this connection the recent secret White House memorandum giving Washington departments new, stricter directives on rules of clearing trade contracts with countries of the socialist community. For instance, the Pentagon is given the right to veto any deal. These instructions cover practically all spheres of trade and economic relations. It is this line of conduct that Washington is seeking to impose on its allies.

SPAIN MAY ACT AS MEDIATOR IN CENTRAL AMERICA

PM071649 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 85 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Chernyshev dispatch: "Important Efforts"]

[Text] Madrid, 6 Feb -- According to the Madrid newspaper EL PAIS, Spain is studying the possibility of acting as a mediator in talks between the Contadora Group (Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama), Nicaragua, and other Central American states. A request to this effect has been addressed to Spain by Nicaragua.

The situation in Central America was the main topic of talks at a meeting in Palma de Mallorca between Prime Minister F. Gonzalez of Spain and President M. de la Madrid of Mexico. In this connection a Spanish Foreign Ministry spokesman has stated that Nicaragua's request, along with appeals from other countries of the region and member-states of the Contadora Group, is "being studied" by the Spanish Government.

At a briefing for journalists after his talks with the Mexican president, F. Gonzalez noted the importance of Nicaragua's efforts aimed at reducing tension in Central America. He stated that the United States, which broke off talks with Nicaragua, should not "miss the opportunity" to settle the crisis situation in Central America by political means.

SOVIET-FINNISH FISHING ZONE AGREEMENT SIGNED

PM071613 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Feb 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] An agreement between the USSR Government and the Finnish Government on restricting the economic zone, fishing zone, and continental shelf in the Gulf of Finland and the northeast Baltic was signed in Moscow on 5 February.

The agreement was signed by V. Maltsev, USSR deputy foreign minister, on the Soviet side, and by A. Karhila, Finnish ambassador to the USSR, on the Finnish side.

SWEDEN HOLDS SEMINAR ON U.S. TRADE EMBARGO POLICY

LD071913 Moscow TASS in English 1814 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Stockholm February 7 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Vukolov reports:

Questions connected with the implementation by the United States of the policy of "embargo" and "sanctions" in the sphere of international trade and also with the United States' attempts to hamper the development of Sweden's commercial and economic ties with socialist countries were discussed at a seminar held here on the initiative of the Swedish Industrial Union.

Resorting actually to a diktat in the sphere of trade, the United States is behaving most unceremoniously, controlling the activity of many Swedish firms, said participants in the seminar. Washington recently blacklisted more than ten Swedish enterprises and firms.

They were actually denied the right to purchase products of contemporary technology at the U.S. market. It is sought in this way to drive a wedge in the development of their cooperation with other countries, above all socialist countries.

It was shown at the seminar that the United States' discriminatory measures have a negative effect on the Swedish industry, the Swedish telegraph bureau points out. Attache for export control at the U.S. Embassy in Stockholm B. Ulson said in an interview to the Swedish Telegraph bureau [TIDNINGARNAS TELEGRAMBYRA] that Washington had recently issued an order to inspect some 30 Swedish enterprises. The reasons for such an examination are unknown, but it is not precluded, however, the attache said that some more Swedish firms will be classed as "unreliable".

There exists a direct threat that all this might hamper the trade of local companies with socialist countries, spokesman for the Swedish Chamber of Commerce T. Hermanson said in this connection.

GREECE REFUSES TO PARTICIPATE IN NATO MANEUVERS

LD071853 Moscow TASS in English 1615 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Athens February 7 TASS -- Greece will not take part in any NATO military maneuvers, said Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou. Speaking at a meeting of the parliamentary group of the ruling party, the Panhellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK), he said that it was impossible for his country to participate in NATO military maneuvers because the bloc's leadership refused to take account of Greece's national interests in the area of the Aegean Sea.

Addressing a press conference Wednesday [6 February] a Greek Government spokesman rebuffed anti-Greek pronouncements made by U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger who had criticized the Greek Government for its foreign policy, in particular for its firm intention to remove American nuclear weapons from the country's territory and support efforts to set up a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans. The U.S. defense secretary also indulged in making direct attacks on Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou.

Rebuffing Weinberger, government spokesman Dhimitrios Maroudhas stressed that the foreign policy of Greech was invariable: It was always directed at ensuring its national interests and preventing a nuclear catastrophe.

U.S.-PORTUGAL MILITARY COOPERATION EXPANDS

LD062355 Moscow TASS in English 1826 GMT 6 Feb 85

[Text] Lisbon February 6 TASS -- The report on a further increase in American military "assistance" to Lisbon is regarded here as new evidence of expanding military cooperation between the United States and Portugal. Portugal will get 218 million dollars from the Pentagon in 1986.

The Reagan administration gives Portugal an important place in its aggressive strategic military preparations. The United States got at its disposal a big air force base on the Azores that will serve as a transshipment point for the "Rapid Deployment Force". The construction of a big military space tracking station has been started in Algarve Province. It will become a component part of Washington's programme of militarising outer space.

At the same time the government is vigorously cooperating in the military field with other NATO countries.

This is evidenced, in particular, by the present visit to Portugal by a delegation of the West German Defence Ministry during which it is intended to sign a number of new agreements.

AGGRAVATED POLITICAL SITUATION IN PORTUGAL NOTED

LD062307 Moscow TASS in English 1718 GMT 6 Feb 85

[Text] Lisbon February 6 TASS -- The present deputy prime minister, Minister of Defence of Portugal Carlos Mota Pinto has resigned from the post of leader of the Social Democratic Party of Portugal as a result of irreconcilable differences inside the party. His further stay in the government will be decided by the prime minister, Secretary General of the Socialist Party Mario Soares.

The aggravation of the political situation is taking place against the background of an unprecedented social and economic crisis in the country and stepped up activities by pro-NATO and separatist elements and terrorists. In the obtaining conditions the progressive Portuguese public notes the dangerous nature of the pressure put by reactionaries and calls for greater unity of all democrats and anti-fascists.

PORTUGUESE CP'S CUNHAL WANTS ROLE IN GOVERNMENT

LD062306 Moscow TASS in English 1654 GMT 6 Feb 85

[Text] Lisbon February 6 TASS -- General Secretary of the Portuguese Communist Party Alvaro Cunhal declared for the setting up in Portugal of a democratic national salvation government with the participation of Communists. Speaking over the local television he said that the policy of the present government has exhausted itself. It leads to the further aggravation of the social and economic problems, to the liquidation of the democratic gains. In these conditions the Communist Party is waging the struggle for progressive transformations of the 1974 revolution, for overcoming a profound crisis, improving the living conditions of the working people, observance of the principles of national independence and sovereignty of the country. Alvaro Cunhal pointed to the cohesion and growth of the ranks of the Portuguese Communist Party.

Touching upon the intensification of the activity of the terrorists in Portugal, he pointed out that their actions promote the interests of the reactionary forces and serve as a pretext for the further onslaught of the authorities on civil liberties. He said that in the international aspect the acts of terrorism objectively help the attempts of imperialism to frustrate the process of the settlement of the most important problems of the present through talks.

ARKHIPOV MEETS WITH CUBAN MINISTER 6 FEB

PM071505 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Friendly Visit"]

[Text] I.V. Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received P. Miret, vice president of the Cuban Council of Ministers, on 6 February. During their businesslike and friendly conversation, they examined a number of questions of trade and economic relations between the USSR and Cuba.

L. Soto, Cuban ambassador to the USSR, also took part in the conversation.

COMPARISON ON MALMIERCA-GROMYKO TALKS

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 7 February in its Morning Edition carries on page 4 a TASS report under the general heading "Soviet-Cuban Talks." The article has been compared with the Moscow Domestic Russian version published in the 6 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page K 1, revealing the following variations:

Paragraph one, line one reads in IZVESTIYA: ... in the Kremlin on 5 February...(subbing 5 February for "today")

Second paragraph, last line reads: ... was especially stressed. The forthcoming 25th anniversary of the restoration of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Cuba will be a notable date. In this period, relations of a new type, characterized by true equal rights, mutual respect, and fraternal solidarity, have formed between the two countries. (supplying additional passage)

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA ON CUBAN CP'S DEFENSE STRATEGY

PM071414 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Feb 85 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Strengthening the Motherland's Defense"]

[Text] Havana 6 Feb -- The document "On Political and Ideological Work in the Sphere of the Country's Defense" adopted at the 10th Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee Plenum has been published here.

It notes that the defense of revolutionary and socialist gains is constantly at the center of the attention of party and state organs. The Cuban revolution's enemies use any means, including military force, in order to deal with it. The adventurist policy of the United States, including Washington's aggressive course toward the Central American and Caribbean countries, has led to a sharp exacerbation of the international situation.

In the light of accumulated experience, Cuba has formulated the concept of "nationwide warfare," which envisages the participation of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, the party and state apparatus, and the broad people's masses in resolving defense tasks. It is necessary to carry out the consistent military-patriotic education of citizens and the systematic military, political, and ideological training of the Cuban people with a view to turning the country into an impregnable fortress.

The document stresses the importance of the Soviet Union's international aid for strengthening Cuba's defense capability.

CHIGIR URGES RESUMPTION OF LATIN AMERICAN TALKS

LD070705 Moscow TASS in English 0643 GMT 5 Feb 85

["Dialogue -- With Whom?" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow February 5 TASS -- By TASS political news analyst Nikolay Chigir:

The need of settling conflicts on the Latin American continent, primarily in Central America, by peaceful means, by means of negotiations, is becoming increasingly urgent and imperative. Latin American leaders and public are well aware of the fact that further deterioration of military tensions in Central American can lead to most serious consequences for the countries both in that region and well outside it. Therefore, any initiative aimed at bringing about a political settlement of Central American problems, no matter from where it comes, as a rule evokes an eager and positive response.

Any step is usually welcomed there if it can promote the settlement of Central American conflicts and establishment of an enduring peace in that region.

In this context no small hopes were pinned on the visit to Pope John Paul II to a number of Latin American countries. It was expected, and this follows from Latin American press reports, pronouncements by political and public figures, that the head of the Roman Catholic Church staying very near the region where the situation has deteriorated to a fever pitch would make his contribution to the cause of a peaceful settlement there.

It should be noted that Pope John Paul II in several of his speeches came out in favor of dialogue between the conflicting sides. However, in the appraisal of Latin American observers, his calls were of very abstract character. Moreover, none of the pronouncements by the head of the Roman Catholic Church on the matter, can even in one's wildest dreams be regarded as addressed to the United States of America. And it is precisely that country which is the chief culprit of the present explosive situation in Central America.

And really, who, if not the Washington administration, bears the entire responsibility for such a situation? It started and continues an undeclared war on Nicaragua, using for that purpose numerous hirelings recruited predominantly from the adherents of the former dictator, Somoza, Washington is the chief culprit of the present bloodshed in El Salvador. The ultra right-wing regime of that country remains in power and pursues a policy of veritable genocide against the population of that country (the policy which already claimed 50,000 victims) only due to U.S. military and economic aid the total value of which stands at nearly 1.8 billion dollars.

Staking on the suppression of the Nicaraguan revolution and the stifling of the national liberation movement in El Salvador with the help of armed might the Reagan administration at the same time torpedoes all efforts aimed at bringing about a peaceful settlement of conflicts. For example, it chose an openly obstructionist position with respect to the peace initiatives of the "Contadora Group" countries and unilaterally broke off U.S.-Nicaraguan talks in Mexico. A serious source of tension in the region of Central America and the Caribbean is the exercises held there by U.S. Armed Forces virtually incessantly.

It is obvious that in such circumstances the appeal of the head of the Roman Catholic Church for dialogue, if addressed precisely to Washington, would have been very timely. As to the democratic republic of Latin America [as received], in the light of commonly known facts there is not need to convince them of that. The striving for peace underlies their foreign policy.

SALVADORAN OPPOSITIONIST HITS REGIME MANEUVERING

PM051502 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Feb 85 First Edition p 5

[Unnamed own correspondent interview in Havana with Mario Aguinada under the rubric "Our Interview": "Salvadoran Regime Maneuvers" -- date of interview not given]

[Text] The crisis in the ruling Salvadoran elite is becoming exacerbated, your Havana correspondent was told by Mario Aguinada, member of the political and diplomatic commission of the country's Farabundo Marti National Liberation-Revolutionary Democratic Front.

President Duarte's behavior at recent meetings with insurgent representatives has shown quite obviously that the Washington administration forbids its placemen to even think about reaching a serious agreement with the patriots.

The position of the Washington puppets, M. Aguinada went on to say, remains obstructionists. The diagnosis of this "disease" is clear: Although the government is experiencing mounting pressure from the people's masses, it is at the same time being blackmailed by the Army elite and ultraright-wing organizations.

The government is scared of the talks failing, pinning on them the hope of giving a "liberal-reformist" impression of the current authorities. Yet, giving in to pressure from extreme reactionary circles, the ruling cabinet constantly tends to think of replacing the public dialogue with some kind of "private meetings" with representatives of the national liberation movement. It is necessary to block these inclinations, M. Aguinada noted in conclusion. It is, after all, the open talks which give the revolutionary forces the opportunity to expose to the whole world the inhuman nature of the Salvadoran regime and the adventurism of its patrons and to consistently struggle for a peaceful settlement in the country.

SALVADORAN HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD DEBATED

LD071854 Moscow TASS in English 1625 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Washington February 7 TASS -- The U.S. State Department has issued a statement expressing disagreement with a report on the situation in the sphere of human rights in El Salvador published here by an influential American public organization, Americas' Watch.

The organization described the situation in El Salvador as horrible, stressing that any assertions to the effect that the human rights situation in that country improved were unsubstantiated.

The conclusions made by Americas' Watch caused extreme annoyance of the U.S. State Department. According to its statement, El Salvador's "record" in that sphere is a vivid demonstration of vast and laudable progress that was achieved in a majority of fields. The U.S. State Department preferred not to specify what it meant when it referred to a enormous progress, but the "record" of the Duarte regime speaks for itself.

It is common knowledge that in the period from July till December 1984 the Salvadoran military killed more than one thousand civilians. Salvadoran punitive troops perpetrate terror and violence confident of their impunity, says the report by Americas' Watch.

The statement by the U.S. State department is a fresh attempt of the U.S. Administration to justify its support for the Salvadoran regime, passing it off as an "advocate" of the observance of human rights. Washington needed such a falsehood to lay the groundwork for a further buildup of military and financial aid to El Salvador which the United States regards as its loyal ally in the struggle against the progressive regime and national liberation movements in Central America.

GREEN BERETS MOVED TO HONDURAS FOR EXERCISES

LD060858 Moscow TASS in English 0841 GMT 6 Feb 85

[Text] Washington February 6 TASS -- The Pentagon has quietly moved select units of U.S. special-operations troops to Honduras. The "Green Berets" from among the seventh special-operations group stationed in Fort Bragg (North Carolina), who became notorious for their atrocities during the years of the aggression in Vietnam, are taking part in "Lempira-85" exercises the aim of which is to train Honduran punitive troops in methods of conducting "anti-guerrilla operations". The exercises will continue till Feburary 15.

U.S. CONGRESSMAN WARNS OF 'WAR' WITH NICARAGUA

LD061454 Moscow TASS in English 1208 GMT 6 Feb 85

[Text] Washington February 6 TASS -- The United States is on the way to a war with Nicaragua, Congressman Henry Gonzalez (Democrat, Texas) has stated. Speaking in the course of a debate at the House of Representatives, he stressed that on the order of President Reagan the biggest buildup of U.S. military presence in the history of Central America was carried on in that region. By today the Pentagon concentrated around Nicaragua 30,000 U.S. troops on the ground, in the sea and in the air. If the U.S. goes on with this policy, it will sooner or later draw it into an open conflict with Nicaragua, H. Gonzalez pointed out. At the same time, the CIA and other agencies of the U.S. Government try to organize political assassinations of Nicaraguan leaders, the congressman underlined.

U.S. SHIPS TO ENTER C. AMERICAN WATERS 'SHORTLY'

LD071759 Moscow TASS in English 1320 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Managua February 7 TASS -- According to reports monitored here, two more U.S. combatant ships, including the battleship "Iowa" armed with nuclear weapons, will enter the Central American waters shortly. They will bring some 500 Marines, who, according to Pentagon's statements, will allegedly be involved in engineering work of exclusively social significance.

This action of Washington is aimed, however, at undermining the neutrality of Costa Rica and at drawing it into the implementation of the U.S. Administration's aggressive plans to stifle the Sandinist people's revolution.

The United States has lately stepped up pressure on the Costa Rican Government to get it to sever relations with Nicaragua and torpedo the peace efforts undertaken by the Contadora Group member countries.

CHERNENKO REMARK NOTED AT 7 FEB POLITBURO SESSION

PM071630 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 8 Feb 85 p 1

["In the CPSU Central Committee Politburo" -- SELSKAYA ZHIZN headline]

[Text] At a routine session the CPSU Central Committee Politburo has examined the results of the all-union socialist competition among union and autonomous republics, krays, oblasts, cities, autonomous okrugs, urban and rural rayons, and collectives of associations, enterprises, organizations, and institutions, kolkhozes, and sovkhozes to fulfill the state plan for the economic and social development of the USSR in 1984.

The resolution of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU, and All-Union Komsomol Central Committee adopted on this question notes that working people in industry, agriculture, construction, transport, and other sectors last year scored new successes in implementing the party's economic policy. The winners of the socialist competition who are to be awarded Challenge Red Banners of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU, and the All-Union Komsomol Central Committee were decided.

At the same time, it was pointed out during the discussion that certain sectors, republics, krays, and oblasts and a number of enterprises and organizations have still not been able to gear competition to achieving results guaranteeing stable production growth, the improvement of labor productivity and output quality, and the reduction of output prime cost.

The Politburo called on the working people of all sectors of the national economy to ensure successful fulfillment of the targets for 1985 and the 11th 5-Year Plan, to mark with labor achievements the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War and the 50th anniversary of the Stakhanovite movement, and to worthily greet the 27th congress of Lenin's party.

The results of the all-union socialist competition will be published in the press.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo heard reports from Ministers V.K. Mesyats, N.T. Kozlov, N.F. Vasilyev, and V.N. Polyakov and from L.I. Khitrun, chairman of the USSR State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture, on the course of preparations for the spring sowing. During the discussion of these reports it was noted that organizations in the country's agro-industrial complex are daily building up the pace of preparation for the field work. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes will have more reclaimed land and better supplies of mineral fertilizers, equipment, and other resources for this year's harvest. At the same time, serious criticism of those management organs not working with sufficient vigor to implement measures aimed at increasing production and purchases of grain and other agricultural output in 1985, were voiced at the session. On certain farms seed cleaning is being delayed, the carting out of organic fertilizers and the preparation of land reclamation systems are lagging behind, and the pace of equipment repair is inadequate. The Ministry of the Automotive Industry and the Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building are not coping with the plan targets for the delivery of a number of spare parts. Due attention is not always paid to training cadres in progressive techniques or to the introduction of the collective contract.

Reliable support for the spring sowing, as Comrade K.U. Chernenko stressed when he addressed [vystupaya na] the CPSU Central Committee Politburo session, acquires particular urgency this year, when the party and the entire people are preparing for the 27th CPSU Congress.

[Moscow TASS in English at 1810 GMT on 7 February renders the previous sentence as follows: "The reliable ensuring of the spring sowing campaign, as was stressed by Konstantin Chernenko speaking at the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee's meeting, becomes especially important this year as the party and all people are preparing for the 27th Congress of the CPSU."] It is necessary to draw the proper conclusions from the lessons of last year, to prepare well for any vagaries of the weather, and to ensure the buildup of production of grain, feed, and other output. Enterprises in industrial construction, transport, and other sectors of the economy must take a more active part in resolving this task. The center of gravity of all organizational and political work should be shifted directly to kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and labor collectives connected with the countryside: the questions that arise must be resolved in a timely fashion; everything possible must be done to complete more rapidly the repair of equipment, the preparation of seeds, and the stockpiling of fuel, fertilizers, and other resources; and cadres of specialists and machine operators must be properly trained.

The Politburo demanded that the Communists leading the relevant ministries and departments take exhaustive measures to eliminate the noted shortcomings and ensure the timely completion of all work connected with preparing the spring sowing and carrying it out in an organized fashion. Union republic Communist Party central committees and kray and oblast party and soviet organs were told to step up organizational and political work among working people in the agro-industrial complex, to rigorously monitor the implementation of measures to create a proper base for this year's harvest, and to fulfill the countryside's orders in a timely fashion.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo examined and approved proposals from the USSR Council of Ministers on accelerating the development of telephone communications in the 12th 5-Year Plan, expanding the production of the requisite equipment, instruments, and materials, and constructing local and trunk fiber-optic [svetovodnyy] lines with a view to more fully satisfying the population's needs for telephone communication services and considerably improving their efficiency and quality.

The programs, prepared by the government on the basis of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee October (1984) Plenum, to further develop irrigated farming and improve the stability of agricultural production in the RSFSR's Saratov Oblast and also to expedite land reclamation in the Belorussian SSR's Vitebsk Oblast were approved.

The Politburo supported the measures elaborated by the relevant state and trade union organs, with the aim of expanding the services offered to Soviet citizens by organizations within the Intourist system. The implementation of these measures will make it possible to improve comprehensive services for working people at tourist establishments, including accommodation, catering, transport, excursion, and other services; to increase the volume and range of services in hotels, motels, and at campsites; and to considerably strengthen their material and technical base.

An information report on the work carried out in 1984 by the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee was examined and approved. While noting the committee's energetic activity, the Politburo emphasized the need for the further strengthening of party and state discipline in all sectors of economic and sociocultural building, for the strict observance by Communists of Leninist norms of party life, and for persistent work in this direction by party control organs at the center and at local level.

Decisions on a number of other questions of the conduct of the domestic and foreign policy of the Communist Party and the Soviet state were examined and adopted at the CPSU Central Committee Politburo session.

[Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 8 February carries in its First Edition on page 1 a version of the 7 February Politburo meeting. that is identical to the SELSKAYA ZHIZN version published above.]

GORBACHEV REPORTEDLY SITTING IN FOR CHERNENKO

AU080807 Paris AFP in English 0805 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] Paris, Feb 8 (AFP) -- French television said last night that Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko had suffered from a sudden asthma attack with "pulmonary complications" on January 14.

A reporter with the TFI network, quoting a "Western diplomatic source" noted that the attack had taken place just before a scheduled Warsaw Pact meeting which was postponed. TFI also broadcast an interview with a ranking Soviet official attending the current French Communist Party congress here, who said he was received last Friday by President Chernenko at his home.

The official said that he and another delegate had had talks with the Soviet leader concerning the Communist Party congress. He added that Mr. Chernenko's illness should not prevent him meeting French External Relations Minister Ronald Dumas in Moscow next month.

Mikhail Gorbachev, considered the number two in the Kremlin, was sitting in for Mr. Chernenko during his absence, and was chairing the weekly Politburo meeting, the Soviet official said. Mr. Gorbachev "is logically the most qualified person to succeed Mr. Chernenko when the problem arises," he said.

CANDIDATE DOLGIKH ADDRESSES LIPETSK ELECTORATE

PM071200 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 85 First Edition p 2

[TASS report on 6 February Lipetsk meeting between V.I. Dolgikh, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and voters of Novolipetskiy Electoral Okrug: "Shock Labor for the Benefit of the Motherland"]

[Text] The party's call to worthily complete the 5-year plan and accelerate the intensification of the economy has met with a broad response among Soviet people. The Lipetsk workers are making a substantial contribution to the solution of tasks connected with improving labor productivity and the quality of output and developing scientific and technical progress. This was stressed 6 February at a meeting between the electorate of Novolipetskiy Electoral Okrug and RSFSR Supreme Soviet candidate deputy Vladimir Ivanovich Dolgikh, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

B.N. Markov, first secretary of the Lipetsk CPSU Gorkom, opened the meeting.

Those taking part in the meeting elected with great enthusiasm an honorary presidium consisting of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrade K.U. Chernenko.

The candidate deputy's agent -- Hero of Socialist Labor I.V. Frantsenyuk, director of the Novyy Lipetsk Yu.V. Andropov Metallurgical Combine -- described V.I. Dolgikh's life and career and urged the voters to cast their votes unanimously on election day to the candidates of the indestructible bloc of Communists and nonparty people.

The meeting was addressed by V.K. Shvetsova, polisher at the "Lipetskiy Traktornyy Zavod" Production Association; Honored Construction Worker of the RSFSR M.I. Didenko, mixed team leader at the "Lipetskstroy" Trust; Ye.S. Malinina, teacher at the No 62 Secondary School; T.L. Stepanova, secretary of the Lipetsk Medical College Komsomol Committee; V.M. Solovyev, driver at the "Lipetskstroytrans" Trust No 1 Motor Pool; and Yu.A. Manayenkov, first secretary of the Lipetsk CPSU Obkom. The speakers spoke of their warm approval for the domestic and foreign policy of the party and Soviet state.

Then V.I. Dolgikh, who was warmly greeted by those assembled, delivered a speech. He spoke of the preparation widely launched in the country for the elections to the union and autonomous republic supreme soviets and the local soviets of people's deputies. This preparation is being carried out in an atmosphere of great political activeness and labor enthusiasm on the part of the Soviet people, who are seeking to greet the 27th congress of Lenin's party with new achievements and worthily celebrate the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Great Patriotic War.

The election campaign is taking place under the sign of the mobilization of all reserves for the successful fulfillment of the targets of the 5-year plan and the further consolidation of positive trends in the national economy's development.

The entire course of preparation for the election is convincingly demonstrating Soviet people's indestructible cohesiveness around the Communist Party and the nationwide support for its domestic and foreign policy. This was manifested particularly graphically in the enthusiasm and unanimity with which the collectives of many enterprises and organizations nominated K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, as their first candidate deputy. An outstanding party and state figure, he is making a tremendous creative contribution to the theory and practice of scientific communism, the elaboration and implementation of the CPSU's political course and economic strategy, the consolidation of the country's defense capability, and the conservation and consolidation of peace.

Konstantin Ustinovich, the speaker said, has asked me to convey to the Lipetsk Oblast working people cordial greetings and wishes for new successes in developing their economy and culture, and good health, happiness, and prosperity to all.

Having thanked the workers, specialists, and employees of Novolipetskiy Electoral Okrug's enterprises and organizations, who have nominated him as their RSFSR Supreme Soviet candidate deputy, V.I. Dolgikh said that he attributes this trust wholly to the Communist Party, its Leninist Central Committee, and the CPSU's political course, which accords with the Soviet people's fundamental interests.

Some 5 years have elapsed since the preceding RSFSR Supreme Soviet elections. They have been years of strenuous constructive labor for the Soviet people and of tremendous organizing and political work for the party in implementing the tasks of the country's economic and social progress.

Our state has made considerable headway in building up its economic potential, the speaker noted. Over this period national income has increased 18 percent. The production of industrial output has risen 20 percent and its quality has improved. Capital investments over the past 5 years have totaled R812 billion. Over 1,000 large-scale enterprises and new production capacities at existing plants have been commissioned.

The party pays special attention to questions of the further development of the agro-industrial complex and the implementation of the food program.

The main task now is to sharply increase agricultural production efficiency. Very great importance is attached to the fulfillment of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee October (1984) Plenum for the expansion of the scales of land reclamation and the enhanced efficiency of the use of this land with a view to steadily building up the country's production fund.

The party consistently implements the social program it has outlined. Major steps have been taken to further improve the people's prosperity. They affect essentially all categories of working people and every Soviet family. The population's real per capita incomes have increased 13 percent. Apartment blocks have been constructed with a total area of over 545 million square meters and nearly 50 million people have moved into new homes.

The party will continue steadily to steer a course toward improving the people's material prosperity and cultural standard. Considerable resources are required for this. The only sources for these resources are Soviet people's highly productive labor, the rational management of the economy, and the effectiveness and quality of all work. It is understandable that every labor collective, every worker, kolkhoz member, and specialist must daily increase their efforts for the further growth of social resources.

It may be noted with satisfaction, the speaker says, that the Lipetsk Oblast working people are making a substantial contribution to building up the country's economic potential. In the first 4 years of the 5-year plan the volume of industrial production has increased nearly 22 percent and agriculture, transport, construction, and the services sphere have been substantially developed. Lipetsk's industrial potential is growing, its municipal services are improving, and new residential areas are being created.

The achievements in the economic and social development of the oblast and city are the result of the large amount of purposeful work performed by the party, soviet, trade union, and Komsomol organizations and the strenuous labor and creative initiative of workers, kolkhoz members, and specialists.

The collectives of the Novyy Lipetsk Metallurgical Combine, the Lipetsk Tractor Plant, the "Dinamo" Factory, the "Lipetskstroy," "Zhelezobeton," and "Lipetskstroytrans" Trusts, the house construction combine, the "Krasnyy Kolos" and "Yekaterinskiy" Sovkhozes, the "Dankovskaya" Poultry Factory, and a number of other enterprises are marching in the vanguard of socialist competition for a fitting greeting to the 27th CPSU Congress and the successful fulfillment of the targets of the current 5-year plan. Over 300 shops, sectors, and teams have already fulfilled their 5-year plans.

The candidate deputy noted that positive changes have been achieved in the development of the national economy. In the past 2 years economic growth rates have been accelerated. For industrial production volume they have been 4.2 percent a year, which is in excess of the plan targets. Labor productivity has risen substantially. Some 94 percent of the entire increase in industrial output was obtained by this means in 1984 and the prime cost of this output was reduced and profits in the national economy increased. But we cannot be satisfied with what we have achieved. We have a lot to do to fulfill successfully the 1985 plan targets and to scale new heights in the development of social production, science, and culture.

The main tasks for the further development of the economy are profoundly and clearly formulated in Comrade K.U. Cherenenko's speech at the CPSU Central Committee Politburo session on 15 November last year. The need was emphasized to focus attention on the rational management of the economy, the fuller use of the production and scientific-technical potential which has been created, the saving of financial and material resources, and the further raising of labor discipline and cadres' responsibility for the matter at hand.

The speaker then dwelled on some economic problems of determining significance for the further development of the national economy, the growth of Soviet people's welfare, and the consolidation of our country's defense might. They are also topical for Lipetsk Oblast, of course, V.I. Dolgikh said.

It is primarily a case of transferring social production to an intensive development footing. This concept includes many components. The most important is the acceleration of scientific-technical progress. Science's links with production are being strengthened and the planning and economic levers are having an intensifying impact on the process of developing and introducing progressive technology.

Much is also being done in your oblast, the candidate deputy stressed. Lipetsk enterprises have carried out the comprehensive mechanization and automation of 65 shops and sectors and introduced 270 progressive new manufacturing processes. A large amount of work is being done at the Novolipetskiy Combine, which is rightly regarded as a flagship of scientific and technical progress in our country's ferrous metallurgy. Serious tasks have to be resolved by the Lipetsk tractor builders. In the 12th 5-Year Plan they must assimilate the production of powerful new row-crop tractors.

Social labor productivity is acquiring paramount importance at the present stage of economic development. Only by constantly improving the technical standard of machinery and equipment, reducing material expenditure, and making better use of manpower resources is it possible to create conditions for the steady improvement of the people's prosperity.

Lipetsk's party organizations and enterprise and construction site collectives have responded ardently to the party call to achieve above-plan labor productivity growth and an additional reduction in output prime cost. Targets for these indicators in 1984 were exceeded by 2.8 and nearly 1 percent, respectively.

Unremitting attention must be devoted to improving output quality. It is this indicator that provides a concentrated reflection of scientific progress, the technical level of production, and people's attitude to work and their profession. It should be noted that the oblast's party organizations and labor collectives are doing considerable work in this direction.

Improving the utilization of production capital is a major reserve for the intensification of the economy. Production capital is constantly growing and being renewed. In this oblast's industry alone its value in the current 5-year plan has increased by more than R1 billion. This capital must operate highly efficiently. An example of this approach is provided by the Lipetsk metallurgical workers, who exceeded the design capacities of their largest units. The intensification of the national economy is indissolubly linked with pursuing the policy of saving resources, V.I. Dolgikh noted. A mere 1-percent reduction in material expenditure makes it possible on a nationwide scale to additionally obtain more than R7 billion in global social product per year. These funds are sufficient to build over 30 million square meters of housing.

Resource saving is a multifaceted, complex problem. It means reducing the material- and energy-intensiveness of output, introducing techniques to ensure the comprehensive processing of raw materials, creating waste-free production, and making fuller use of secondary resources. Party, soviet, trade union, and Komsomol organizations and all labor collectives must launch the struggle for thrift more extensively and respond with practical deeds to the party call to work for no less than 2 days in 1985 on economized resources.

Questions of ensuring reliable energy supplies to the national ecnomy require particular attention, the candidate deputy said. Certain difficulties have arisen in this regard in a number of regions of the country. The exceptionally severe conditions this winter have taken their toll. The CPSU Central Committee and the government are taking all the necessary measures to improve the situation, but these measures must be backed up with great organizational work locally.

We have a firm basis for ensuring stable energy supplies -- a powerful and dynamically developing fuel and energy complex. At the same time, it must be borne in mind that building up fuel production becomes more expensive every year owing to the depletion of old deposits and the transfer of the main oil and gas extracting regions to the country's uninhabited and inaccessible eastern and northern regions.

It is necessary to emphasize the more rational expenditure of energy resources. The most important task of party organizations at enterprises, construction sites, kolkhozes, and sovkhozes consists in launching a broad movement aimed at seeking out and utilizing reserves for reducing the proportion of fuel and energy used in producing output, the candidate deputy stressed.

The precise rhythm and organization of production largely depend on transportation. We must be constantly concerned to improve the use of rolling stock on railroads and to reduce stoppages of freight wagons, which considerably exceed the established normatives at a number of the oblast's enterprises.

V.I. Dolgikh spoke of the need to considerably improve the organizational and technical standard of capital construction and to further industrialize it. Great attention must be devoted to improving the quality of construction work, introducing financially autonomous team contracts, reducing project building schedules, and concentrating forces and funds on projects scheduled for commissioning.

In his speech he stressed that the qualitative transformation of production forces and rational management are indissolubly linked with improving administrative methods.

The successful resolution of the tasks of economic and cultural building and the further development of socialist democracy are indissolubly linked with improving the activity of soviets at all levels. Comrade K.U. Chernenko's speech at the CPSU Central Committee April (1984) Plenum set forth the most important provisions for enhancing the soviets' role in carrying out the party's socioeconomic policy and in more fully implementing the Leninist principle of unified legislation, administration, and control.

V.I. Dolgikh spoke of the need to step up the soviets' attention to questions of improving services to the population, ensuring the smooth functioning of all municipal services, and strengthening their material-technical base.

Dwelling on the tasks of the Lipetsk Oblast and City party organizations in further developing the economy and culture, the speaker stressed the importance of fulfilling and overfulfilling the national economic plan for 1985. Its targets are intensive but realistic and geared to further strengthening and developing the positive changes in the economy.

The Soviet people will soon be celebrating the 40th anniversary of victory in the Great Patriotic War -- an event of worldwide historic significance, the candidate deputy said. The 40 years of peaceful conditions under which Soviet people have been living and working are the main results of the Leninist foreign policy of our party and state.

The constructive proposals put forward in Comrade K.U. Chernenko's speeches are imbued with tireless concern to strengthen peace. The Communist Party and the Soviet state will continue to pursue an active peace-loving foreign policy and strengthen the country's economic and defense might.

In conclusion, the candidate deputy once again cordially thanked the working people of the Novoligpetskiy Electoral Okrug for the high honor they had shown him and assured them that he would try to justify that high trust and devote all his efforts to the cause of communist creation.

While in Lipetsk Oblast, V.I. Dolgikh visited the Novyy Lipetsk Yu. V. Andropov Metallurgical Combine, "Lipetskiy Traktornyy Zavod" Association, and a housing construction combine. He inquired about questions of the introduction of new equipment and progressive techniques, improvements in output quality, savings of raw and semifinished material and energy resources, progress in fulfilling the state plans and socialist pledges for 1985 and for the 5-year plan as a whole, and the development of socialist competition to mark the 40th anniversary of the great victory and the forthcoming 27th CPSU Congress. Great attention was devoted to the fulfillment of the plans for the social development of enterprises and cultural and consumer services to the working people.

It was stressed in talks with workers, leaders, and specialists that it is important for party organizations and soviet, trade union, and economic organs not to relax their attention to the questions of strengthening discipline, organization, and order and to develop working people's initiatives, basing all the work on the provisions and conclusions set forth in the speeches by K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

V.I. Dolgikh was accompanied by Yu. A. Manayenkov, first secretary of Lipetsk CPSU Obkom, and V.V. Donskikh, chairman fo the oblispolkom.

CANDIDATE PONOMAREV ADDRESSES SARATOV VOTERS

PM081115 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Feb 85 First Edition p 2

[TASS report on 7 February Saratov meeting between B.N. Ponomarev, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and voters of Zavodskoy Electoral Okrug: "For the Sake of the People, For the Sake of Peace"]

[Text] The peace-loving course of the Soviet Union is aimed at resolving an urgent task of our times -- averting the threat of war, ending the arms race, preventing the militarization of space, and limiting, reducing, and subsequently totally excluding nuclear weapons from arms arsenals. The USSR's stance, imbued with concern for safeguarding and strengthening peace all over the world, is clear and understandable to the people and accords with their innermost aspirations and vital interests.

Fervent approval and unanimous support for the wise Leninist domestic and foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state were expressed in Saratov 7 February by the participants at a meeting of Zavodskoy Electoral Okrug voters in RSFSR Supreme Soviet candidate deputy Boris Nikolayevich Ponomarev, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The meeting was opened by I.K. Gerasimchuk, first secretary of the Zavodskoy CPSU Raykom.

An honorary presidium consisting of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrade K.U. Chernenko was enthusiasitcally elected.

The candidate deputy's agent -- Hero of Socialist Labor M.D. Gorbunov, leader of a metal workers team at the bearings plant, spoke of B.N. Ponomarev's life and career. The speaker urged the voters to cast their votes on election day for the candidates of the unbreakable bloc of Communists and nonparty people.

Addressing the meeting, A.I. Krivokhizhin, director of the aviation plant; V.I. Arkhipov, metal worker at the "Nitron" Production Association and winner of the USSR State Prize; L.D. Kislyakova, director of No 23 Secondary School; and G.A. Skvortsov, fitter at the "Saratovkhimtyazhstroy" Trust, noted that Saratov's labor collectives, responding to the party's call to fittingly welcome the 27th CPSU Congress and the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War and guided by Comrade K.U. Chernenko's instructions on rational economic management, are persistently stepping up the intensification of production and are struggling for utmost savings of material, financial, and other resources and for boosting the efficiency of irrigated land. They have actively joined in the socialist competition for successful fulfillment of targets for the 5-year plan's final year.

It was emphasized in the speeches that, by casting their votes for the candidates of the bloc of Communists and nonparty people, Saratov Oblast's working people, as all Soviet people, will display yet again unbreakable unity around their own Communist Party. The voters will vote for further strengthening the socialist motherland's economic and defense might, for enhancing the people's prosperity, and for peace on the planet.

B.N. Ponomarev, who was warmly welcomed by those assembled, addressed the meeting. He conveyed to working people of Saratov and the oblast cordial greetings and wishes for good health, happiness, and new labor achievements from K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

B.N. Ponomarev cordially thanked the voters for the trust they have once again shown in him by nominating him candidate deputy for the RSFSR Supreme Soviet. The current year, the speaker noted, is a special one. It will be a year of active preparation for the 27th CPSU Congress. It will be the year of the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's world historical victory in the Great Patriotic War. It will be the year of the 80th anniversary of the 1905-1907 revolution, the first people's revolution in the age of imperialism.

All three events are inseparable from one another. Their interrelationship is like a symbol of the path along which our people are marching, and this path is truly vast, glorious, and far from easy. Since 1905 the country has lived through three devastating wars and three revolutions. The main result of the Soviet people's victorious march has been the replacement of the former tsarist empire by a mighty socialist power with modern industry and agriculture and advanced culture, a power marching in the vanguard of human progress. We have built the first society of developed socialism on earth. This great gain has been achieved through the gigantic efforts of the people guided by the Leninist Communist Party on the basis of Marxism-Leninism. Hence the Soviet people's boundless trust in their own party.

The current election campaign coincides with preparations for the 27th CPSU Congress. Comrade K.U. Chernenko is making a great contribution to the elaboration of most important questions of party activity. Possessing rich experience in political, ideological, and organizational work, he is doing much to affirm and develop a truly innovative and creative style of party and state leadership and to implement the CPSU's general line. The international communist and workers' movement and the democratic public know him as a tested internationalist and staunch fighter for peace and socialism.

The CPSU Central Committee February, April, and October (1984) Plenums, Comrade K.U. Chernenko's speech at the 15 November 1984 session of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and his other speeches have had a favorable effect on improving the state of affairs in the national economy and on enhancing the masses' initiative and organization, discipline, and law and order in all sectors of production and management.

The party Central Committee has taken important measures aimed at strengthening party, state, and production discipline and extirpating such impermissilbe phenomena as squandering state assets, deception, and others. Greater exactingness is shown toward cadres. And all this is ardently supported by Soviet people.

The measures that are being implemented are no ordinary campaign, but permanent aspects of our production, party, and social activity. We must give them unremitting attention!

The party's concern for utmost improvement in work and the resolute measures to impose order in all sectors are producing the necessary results. Over the last 2 years the growth of industrial output has been 1.5 times the level of the 5-year plan's first 2 years. Encouraging changes are also taking place in agriculture. Working people's real incomes have increased substantially. The 1984 plan for the construction and commissioning of housing was overfulfilled. A comprehensive reform of general educational and vocational schools was approved and is being implemented.

Our efforts are now concentrated on solving the tasks of increased production efficiency. This is the general trend of the party's economic strategy. The party is looking beyond the problems of today at the strategic issues of national economic development. It has set the historic task of combining the scientific and technical revolution with socialism. And this task is being implemented.

The implementation of measures connected with scientific and technical progress also has a great international significance. Scientific and technical progress can ensure our economic advantage in the peaceful competition with capitalism. This will be yet another proof of socialism's advantages over capitalism.

B.N. Ponomarev went on to stress the great importance of ideological and mass political work as a whole. This was the subject of the CPSU Central Committee June (1983) Plenum and the December 1984 All-Union Scientific-Practical Conference, which comprehensively examined questions of ideological work in today's conditions. The party proceeds from the premise that ideological education work must be most closely linked with the most topical issues of the practice of our building. It is important to reveal intelligibly and vividly the importance of the gains of developed socialism and prove that the consolidation and augmentation of these gains is directly and immediately linked with the results of each person's labor.

Work is now in progress on preparing a new edition of the CPSU program, whose adoption will be enormously significant for the party's entire activity and for the improvement of the society of developed socialism.

The party is giving more attention to the consistent implementation of the course of expanding socialist democracy and improving the work by soviets at all levels.

Saratov Oblast's working people are actively participating in the nationwide struggle to fulfill the party and state decisions and plans. Its people have reasons to feel proud.

But it must be admitted, the candidate deputy noted, that quite a few shortcomings and omissions still do exist. The paramount task now must be to overcome them unconditionally and quickly.

The historic gains of socialism are indisputable. Even our enemies have been forced to recognize them. What has already long been ordinary and self-evident for Soviet people -- the dynamic development of the economy without slumps and crises, the absence of unemployment, confidence in the future, free housing allocation, medical services, and education, and state concern to satisfy the working people's needs and requirements -- all sharply contrasts with the lives and fate of working people in the capitalist world. And this contrast is intensifying with every passing year. The intensity of class battles is growing.

Capitalism is not only fraught with social calamities for the people's masses. It threatens mankind with war and encroaches on the very existence of life on earth. The cult of military force espoused by U.S. imperialism is not just mere words. An unchecked arms race and gambling on the achievement of military superiority lie behind it.

Imperialism, encountering the peoples' will to prevent war, has recently been trying to don peacemaking garb. Many words are voiced in Washington about peace, but the imperialists' deeds show otherwise: The United States and NATO are continuing material preparations for war. The world already seems too small for U.S. militarism. It intends to turn space into a theater of military actions too.

The imperialist line is opposed by another -- the line of the Soviet Union, the socialist community, and the overwhelming majority of mankind toward preventing the threat of war and ensuring peaceful cooperation. An extensive coalition of peace-loving forces capable of proving a powerful obstacle in the way of aggressive imperialist circles is being formed.

The Soviet Union is conducting a historic battle for world peace, and this corresponds to the interests of all the world's peoples. The USSR expresses its defense of peace in specific, businesslike proposals strictly observing the principle of equality and identical security.

The Soviet commitment to non-first-use of nuclear weapons has received a high assessment and recognition from peace-loving forces. The Soviet Union resolutely opposes the militarization of space. Wide support is enjoyed by these and other Soviet initiatives: a freeze on nuclear arsenals, a total ban on nuclear tests, establishing norms of behavior for the nuclear powers -- in short, our steps aimed against the arms race. The world public welcomes the fundamental proposals submitted by the Soviet Union at Stockholm for a treaty on the mutual nonuse of military force and support for relations of peace.

The USSR has approached the question of Soviet-U.S. talks with great responsibility. The CPSU Central Committee Politburo has stated the importance of the accord reached between A.A. Gromyko and G. Shultz regarding the subject matter and goals of the talks on space and nuclear arms issues, which will be examined as an interrelated whole.

If the Soviet Union opposes the militarization of space it is not because it is incapable of responding to the U.S. military's schemes. "If we are forced to," Comrade K.U. Chernenko notes, "we will do everything, as we repeatedly have done in the past, to safeguard our security and the security of our allies and friends."

Now the U.S. Administration endlessly reiterates that the militarization of space is meant to serve the "defense of the United States."

It also wants to present scientific research work in this sphere as "inoffensive." All this is one big lie, and an extremely crafty one to boot. It is meant to conceal Washington's scheme of using space for an unchecked arms race and winning domination of mankind.

But this policy is encountering increasingly great opposition from the world's peoples. Workers and peasants, scientists and cultural figures are angrily protesting the U.S. policy of militarizing space. The dangers of the "star wars" program are being pointed out by many eminent U.S. politicians.

The part of the joint Soviet-U.S. statement that says that the goal of the forthcoming Geneva talks will be the development of effective accords aimed at halting and ending the arms race, which must ultimately lead to the complete elimination of nuclear weapons forever, is of fundamental importance. This is a serious commitment. If provides a new basis for the extensive antiwar forces, and all those who do not want a nuclear catastrophe, to demand its strict fulfillment from the United States. If the aforesaid commitment is not implemented - it will show all mankind that the U.S. Administration is indeed opposed to reductions of all arms.

The Soviet Union firmly advocates strict observance of what was achieved in Geneva. Following routes leading to the ending of the arms race and the exclusion altogether of aggressive wars from mankind's life, the USSR is prepared for the most radical solutions.

In the present situation it is very important to disseminate the truth about the position of the USSR and the United States and the essence of the U.S. and NATO program for the militarization of space and the arms race as a whole. This truth incites the masses to campaign against the sinister imperialist plans and promotes the spread of the antiwar movement.

The pooling of the selfless struggle of the Soviet Union and the entire socialist community with the struggle of all peace-loving forces serves to resolve the tasks of preventing a nuclear war. Imperialism cannot fail to take account of the antiwar movement. It has acquired great moral and political force and its influence is rising steadily.

Communists were present at the birth of the peace movement and today they are the most persistent in defending the cause of peace. They have an essential role to play in spreading the mass antiwar movement and the campaign against the siting of U.S. missiles in Europe and against the militarization of peace. Communist parties are now struggling not only to destroy exploitation but also to save life itself on earth.

Many prestigious statesmen in the nonsocialist world are increasingly actively launching constructive initiatives too. A vivid example of that is the joint antiwar declaration of the leaders of the six states from the four continents: Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Tanzania, and Sweden. Their declaration -- yet more important evidence of the prestige of forces advocating peace -- demands that the advocates of the arms race listen to the voice of the people.

In 3 months' time, B.N. Ponomarev went on to say, we will be celebrating the 40th anniversary of the great victory. This was one of the decisive turning points in 20th century history. However, in the West, statements such as "would it not be better to ignore this date, since it gives the 'advantage' to the Soviet Union?" are not uncommon.

Yes, the Soviet Union has every reason to be proud that during the war we opposed and routed the enemy which perfidiously attacked us.

Just as the sun cannot be blotted out with the palm of the hand, so it is impossible to ignore the great truth that the decisive contribution to the victory over the Hitlerite coalition, to the liberation of the peoples from fascist servitude, and to the saving of world civilization, was made by the Soviet people who, under the leadership of the Communist Party, defended the socialist motherland's freedom and independence, upheld the cause of October, and saved mankind from barbaric fascist dominion.

The lessons of the Great Patriotic War have a continuing importance. And the main lesson is that we must struggle against war before it starts.

That means increasing activeness in the struggle for peace and removing the threat of war. It means strengthening the might of the land of the soviets and the socialist community, which are making a decisive contribution to the cause of the defense of peace and the peoples' security. It means being vigilant and ready to rebuff any aggressor and to strengthen our glorious Armed Forces.

The peaceful future of our country and mankind as a whole depends on the results of Soviet people's labor.

In conclusion, the candidate deputy stressed that, true to the Leninist peace policy, the CPSU will continue to do everything to ensure peace and prosperity for the Soviet people.

CHEBRIKOV SPEECH TO LENINSKIY ELECTORAL OKRUG

OW071321 Vladivostok Domestic Service in Russian 1122 GMT 6 Feb 85

[Speech by Viktor Mikhaylovich Chebrikov, candidate deputy of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and chairman of the USSR KGB, at 6 February meeting with voters of the Leninskiy Electoral Okrug in Vladivostok -- recorded]

[Text] Dear comrades: Allow me first to warmly thank you, the collectives of Dalzavod and the Far East Polytechnical Institute, you, participants in the present meeting, and all okrug voters for nominating me as a candidate deputy to the RSFSR Supreme Soviet. [applause]

As a Communist, I attribute this lofty trust to the glorious Leninist party, the tried and tested vanguard of the Soviet people, the inspirer and organizer of all our historic achievements. It is a great honor to represent the workers of Vladivostok, a city with glorious revolutionary and labor traditions, in the Russian Federation's supreme organ of state power.

Comrade Chernenko, general secretary of our party's Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, is constantly interested in the deeds of the people of the Far East. I am fulfilling with great satisfaction the honorable instruction of Konstantin Ustinovich by transmitting to you his wishes for further successes in economic and cultural construction in the kray. [applause]

Our party Central Committee and the Soviet Government are paying considerable attention to the economic and social development of Siberia and the Far East, this very rich but harsh region. The results of this concern are very evident in the examples of the Maritime Kray and Vladivostok City.

This year, your city will be 125 years old. Its history is inseparably linked with the fate of our people and country and the struggle for social liberation of the Russian proletariat and all the workers under the leadership of the Bolshevik party.

During the revolution of 1905-1907, the soviet of soldiers' deputies appeared for the first time in Russia. The military achievements of the courageous fighters for the cause of the revolution and the feats of maritime region partisans are inscribed in gold letters in the history of the civil war, the struggle to expel foreign interventionists and rout the whiteguards.

The triumph of Soviet power in the Far East was warmly welcomed by Vladimir Ilich Lenin, who sent all the workers and peasants of Vladivostok region's liberated oblasts and cities greetings of the Soviet of People's Commissars of the RSFSR. The people of the Far East earned everlasting glory during the period of the great fatherland war against the Hitlerite invaders and during the crushing of militarist Japan.

But Vladivostok is glorious not only for its military deeds. It is a city of labor glory, a city of builders. It has changed beyond recognition since the establishment of Soviet power. It has become an important industrial, scientific, and cultural center. Spread over hills along the shores of the golden horn bay, your city gladdens the eyes with its wide avenues, modern housing complexes, and solid office buildings. The architects and construction workers have seen to it that Vladivostok, which is justly called the pearl of the Soviet Far East, has a unique image and is convenient for work and life.

Modern transportation and communications have in a way brought the city to the central regions of the country, and it lives, develops, and works in rhythm with our entire great country. Its main wealth is the people who are making worthy contributions to the general cause of communist construction, sacredly preserving the revolutionary traditions of preceding generations, and focusing creative energies on making this remarkable city on the Pacific Ocean even finer. Honor and praise to you for this. [applause]

The workers city of Vladivostok is at the same time the country's important, advanced military naval base on the Pacific Ocean. Jointly with all our glorious Armed Forces, Pacific Fleet seamen are reliably protecting the peaceful constructive labor of the Soviet people.

Comrades, elections to the Supreme Soviets of the Union, autonomous republics, and the local soviets of people's deputies are a major sociopolitical event. They are of great significance for further deepening people's power in our country and for improving the work of all the echelons of state government. During the elections, we will sum up the results of the work done and outline the tasks for the future. The period since the last elections has been characterized by purposeful and consistent activity of the Soviet people aimed at fulfilling the resolutions of the 26h CPSU Congress and subsequent Central Committee plenums.

New successes have been achieved in economic and cultural construction. It is known that, for certain reasons, the pace of development of our economy in the first 2 years of the current 5-year plan period turned out to be somewhat lower than planned.

The party outlined effective measures to correct the situation, and their implementation has made it possible to obtain positive improvements in the economy, which is now developing more dynamically.

The growth of public production and improvement of qualitative indices have made it possible to achieve a further improvement in the people's living standards.

Fruitful work has also been done during the period by the workers of the Maritime Kray, including those in Vladivostok. The plan for the first 4 years of the 5-year plan period has been prefulfilled for the pace of growth of production of industrial goods. Big results have been achieved by workers in the fishing industry and nonferrous metallurgy, miners, wood processing workers, shipbuilders, and ship repairmen. Much has been done during these years in the fields of construction, agriculture, and transport. The Far East Shipping Administration has successfully fulfilled its tasks.

The Maritime Kray is justly called the fish department of the country. It supplies a considerable part of the country's total fish catch and sea products. Kray fishermen have produced, above plan, 250,000 tons of fish and sea products. It is an impressive figure. Behind this, stands the persistent and selfless labor of crews of many ships. The Komsomol youth crew of seine trawler Skadovsk, led by Hero of Socialist Labor Yuriy Petrovich Volkov, has become a real leader in the fishing industry of the Maritime Kray and the Far East, a school of advanced methods for fishermen.

The program for the social development of the Soviet Maritime Region has been successfully implemented, as throughout the entire country. The real earnings of the workers increased, the trade turnover increased, the living conditions of over 300,000 people have been improved, and new schools, hospitals, and other social and consumer service establishments have been commissioned in the first 4 years of the 5-year plan period. Further advancement has been achieved in science, education, health services, and culture.

The successes achieved during the past period in economic and social development arouse feelings of justifiable satisfaction. They show the correctness of the party's economic policy for speeding up the rate of our forward progress along the road to improvement of a developed, socialist society. This gives us all the more reason to look into the future with optimism.

Now, the attention of the party, state, and economic organs, and all the workers' collectives are naturally focused on the tasks of the current year, the closing year of the current 5-year plan period. The instructions and conclusions on the basic issues of economic and social development contained in Comrade Chernenko's statement at the session of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo on 15 November last year, give clear reference points for our forward movement. They have been reflected in the current year's plan and budget, found a live response in the hearts of the Soviet peopoe, and were an important stimulus for increasing their political and labor activity.

The current year's plan is aimed at securing positive changes in the economy, increasing the positive results obtained lately. It envisages further improvement in the welfare of the Soviet people of the basis of gradual development of the national economy, increase in the intensification of public production, acceleration of scientific-technical progress, all-around economy of material, financial, and labor resources, and improvement in the quality of work. Concern for the welfare of the people is the highest aim of the party, and the workers see that the party is doing everything possible to implement it.

During meetings in recent days at city labor collectives, and in talks with Dmitriy Nikolayevich Gagarov, first secretary of the kraykom, many interesting views were expressed, testifying to the fact that tasks put forward by the party in the sphere of economic and social development are at the center of attention of Maritime Kray and Vladivostok working people.

Party and Soviet organs are constantly directing their efforts at fulfilling state plans and socialist pledges. You are acting correctly when you note the positive results achieved in economic and social development and direct your attention to still unsolved problems and shortcomings, for they exist. For instance, a lag has been permitted in fulfillment of tasks of the 5-year plan period in the sphere of construction and agriculture, certain planned indicators in transportation and trade have not been achieved, and there is still a shortage of housing, although quite a lot is being built. Work in the sphere of consumer services for the population is meeting with serious reprimands from city working people. It is necessary to do everything to rapidly correct the situation in these sectors.

For many centuries now, the peoples of our country have been developing the regions of Siberia and the Far East. This process has acquired a particularly broad scope in the years of Soviet rule. Modern towns and villages, main railroad lines and highways, major river and sea ports, developed industrial and agricultural production, and widely known centers of science and culture constitute today's reality in these immense spaces. New enterprises, and even branches of the national economy, new settlements and towns are appearing, growing, and developing alongside existing ones. We speak with pride about the great construction project of the century -- the Baykal-Amur Railroad, whose construction scale and timespan are possible only with the resources of socialism.

Such rapid development of these regions naturally requires an extensive influx of people, and they come here from every corner of our immense homeland. Not only new labor collectives are appearing, but, at times, also completely new vocations, uncommon to these areas. It is very important that the ranks of toilers, who have tightly bound their destinies to your rich kray -- far away and at the same time so near to every Soviet person -- steadfastly grow and increase.

The question of consolitation of personnel is of particular significance. For you know that behind all the achievements of this or that collective there is always the strenuous and creative labor of the people comprising it. Precisely they -- the people of labor -- through their everyday and, at times, initially inconspicuous work, create all the riches of our Soviet people and forge the economic and defense might of our homeland. They and only they are the creators and the sole masters of all the materials and spiritual values of our society.

The man of labor: What profound meaning we attribute to these simple words; with what pride and respect we pronounce them. This is understandable, for we are talking about the leaders of production, veterans of labor, representatives of glorious labor dynasties, and the best people in the scientific, technical, and creative intellegentsia; that is, about everybody who is tirelessly toiling for the welfare of the people.

The Soviet Maritime Kray is full of such people. These are Heroes of Socialist Labor Vladimir Arkhipovich Bakiyeved, brigade leader of dockyard machine operators; Dalzavod Foreman Grigoriy Afanasyevich Sushchenko; brigade leader at the same plant, Fedor Nikolayevich Shestopalov; the well-known Vladimir Ivonovich Komissarov, head of a department of the Far East Polytechnical Institute and Great Patriotic War veteran; RSFSR merited painter Anatoliy Vasilyevich Teleshov; RSFSR merited artist and Great Patriotic War veteran Vadim Yanovich Myal; and many, many others. They have won honor and nationwide respect through their labor. Your kray and your remarkable city can rightfully be proud of them.

I would particularly like to say something about labor dynasties. We often use this term, but do we always think about what it means? Who comprises these dynasties?

They consist of people who have from one generation to another bound their destinies with the concrete sphere of man's work activity. Passing on, from generation to generation, their enthusiasm for a certain vocation, pride in it, and all the nuances of a skill, these people cannot think of a life without a collective, which has become dear to them. They wholeheartedly worry about it, sincerely rejoice at its achievements, and keenly suffer its misfortunes. For them, 'my' has long become 'ours,' and they are the reliable nucleus of labor collectives.

So let labor dynasties in your glorious city and kray gather strength and increase: those, like the Bykov dynasty and Dalzavod; Chuyko, from the Far East Shipping Company; the Pritesnovs from Slavyanka Fish Processing Plant; the Smolyakovs from the Nagornaya Mine; and many, many others. To them -- the genuine vanguard of labor -- we address our profound gratitude for loyalty to the great mission of the creative toiler.

Comrades, Soviet democracy is real and active. Its main feature is that it not only proclaims the rights and freedoms of citizens, but also guarantees their implementation. In the process of perfecting developed socialism, these economic, social, and political rights and freedoms are enriched by increasingly weighty substance. The broad rights granted to working people by socialist democracy are organically combined with responsibilities. This combination is determined by the very nature of our socialist system and the community of the fundamental interests of all classes and social groups of Soviet society in communist construction.

The highly conscientious attitudes of Soviet people toward civic duty develop under the influence of the ideological work of the party and the entire educational system, which encompass the various spheres where the shaping and formation of the individual occur. However, this process does not always progress as we would like. For instance, the fact that among a certain, albeit insignificant, section of our youth manifestations of a lack of principles, disdain for public interests, moneymaking, notorious materialism, and instances of worshipping the bourgeois way of life still occur must disturb us. Without eradicating these vices, one cannot seriously talk about the possibility of cultivating these people into genuine patriots of the homeland. Therefore, it is necessary everywhere to intensify work with youth and resolutely to overcome their formalism, lack of organization, showing off. Komsomol leaders must always be in the midst of young people, know well their interests, and exert a positive influence on their formation.

You know perfectly well that the contribution of everyone to our common cause -- the cause of perfecting the society of developed socialism -- is the source that supplies the strength of the state and enables the rights of citizens to be guaranteed in practice. By bringing maximum benefit to himself.

The problem of democracy occupies one of the central places in the ideological struggle of the two systems -- socialism and capitalism. Our ideological opponents are waging a shameless slander campaign about imaginary human rights violations in the Soviet Union. They are thus trying to blacken Soviet democracy, poison the international climate, and to distract attention from human rights violations in bourgeois countries. The special services of imperialism actively join this large-scale activity to discredit real socialism, giving it a nature of open subversion and sabotage. The ideological sabotage implemented by them is an integral part of the global plans and aspirations of imperialist circles directed against the security of our state.

As you know, the direct defense of the interests of the Soviet state and society against the subversive activities of the foreign special services and hostile elements is entrusted to the organs of state security of the USSR, to whose work Comrade Chernenko, general secretary of our party's Central Committee, pays constant attention. In conditions of exacerbation of the international situation, Chekists make particular demands on themselves, increase political vigilance, in every way possible, and resolutely suppress any hostile intrigues against the Soviet system.

The entire activity of the USSR KGB organs is subordinate to the fulfillment of tasks which the party places before us. The Leninist principle of party leadership has been, is, and always will be the unalterable law of our activity. Solving complex and responsible tasks, the organs of state security are constantly improving the forms and methods of their work and taking into account the requirements of the contemporary stage of the development of our society and the Soviet state while strictly observing socialist legality. We do not conceive of our activity without the constant expansion and strengthening of ties with the working people.

The Constitution says that ensuring state security is the obligation of all state organs, public organizations, officials, and Soviet citizens. Realization of this constitutional requirement is strikingly mainfested in practice in protection of the state border. There is no need to explain to you, inhabitants of Maritime Kray, what a difficult and responsible matter this is. Our border guards are successfully coping with the tasks facing them and vigilantly guard the sacred borders of our homeland. The inhabitants of border regions render them great assistance in this. Chekists see their duty as being the political fighters of our party, selflessly serving it and their people, and reliably ensuring the security of the socialist homeland. The working people of our country are infinitely devoted to the cause of communism. The subversive actions of the class enemy invariably meet with crushing rebuff and break up against the monolithic unity of the party and the Soviet people and their readiness to steadfastly defend the gains of socialism.

Comrades, the international situation significantly influences the solution of tasks of our peaceful construction. In the currently prevailing conditions, the Communist Party and the Soviet state are doing everything necessary to strengthen the defense capability and security of the country and are persistently, purposefully, and consistently conducting a policy directed at preventing war and preserving peace.

In its foreign policy activity, the Soviet Union is invariably guided by the Leninist principle of the peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems. Giving a resolute rebuff to the aggressive aspirations of imperialism, it is doing everything to improve the international climate, to bring about a return to detence, to settle controversial problems by peaceful means, and to develop mutually beneficial cooperation.

The most burning international problem that worries the peoples of the whole world is preventing a nuclear conflagration. Not to permit it -- this is what our basic efforts are concentrated on. The pledge taken by the Soviet Union not to be the first to use nuclear weapons is an act of historic significance. Our side supports limitation, and subsequently the total prohibition of nuclear weapons, and the use of outer space for peaceful purposes only.

Our peaceful initiatives encompass the most important problems of international security. They are directed at improving the situation in various regions of the world, including the Far East. The Soviet Union is in favor of the Far East, just like other regions, not being an arena of tension and the arms race, but becoming a region of peace and mutually beneficial and equitable cooperation between all countries and all peoples.

The proposal on confidence-building measures and security in the Far East in particular serves these aims.

We also invariably support the peace initiatives of other countries. The Soviet-Korean summit talks in Moscow last May made a weighty contribution to the successful development of multifaceted relations with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. They confirmed the aspirations of the USSR and the DPRK to strengthen solidarity in the interests of the struggle against the militaristic policy of imperialism, primarily American, and ensuring peace and security in Asia and the entire world.

Fraternal friendship and cooperation of the Soviet Union with the peoples of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia is being enriched year after year. The Soviet Union firmly supports the struggle of the fraternal countries of Indochina in defense of their sovereignty and for peaceful conditions for their development.

As we have often stressed at the highest level -- in consistently implementing the principled line of the 26th party congress -- we are invariably striving to improve relations with the People's Republic of China and are making appropriate steps in this direction. Recently one can observe definte developments in mutually beneficial Soviet-Chinese trade and economic and scientific and technical ties and contacts in the sphere of culture, sport, and education. We are in favor of further progress of Soviet-Chinese relations and their normalization. Of course, such normalization can only be built on the foundation of reciprocity and no detriment to third countries.

The Soviet Union supports multifaceted and full-blooded relations with Japan, particularly because there are broad opportunities for this, which are however not being used, and through no fault of ours. Certain circles in Tokyo are creating obstacles to their development. The United States is nudging Japan along the dangerous path of militarization and of joining the arms race. It is quite obvious that this does not meet the interests of the development of Soviet-Japanese relations.

The Leninist foreign policy of the Soviet Union is directed at creating favorable conditions for our peaceful construction. It meets the aspirations of all peoples who desire peace. The Soviet Union will in the future conduct this principled policy.

This year the Soviet people and all progressive mankind will mark a glorious anniversary -- the 40th anniversary of the great victory against Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism. During the war, we fought against the common enemy together with our allies -- the states of the anti-Hitlerite coalition and all freedom-loving peoples, whose courage in the antifascist struggle we highly value.

The fundamental burden of this struggle lies on the shoulders of our country, which played a decisive role in the rout of fascism. The glory of the Soviet soldier-liberator and the exploits of the toilers of the home front during the grim years of the Great Patriotic War will never fade. The sacrifices our people made during the war were incredibily great, and therefore they know so well the true value of peace and consistently and persistentely fight for its preservation and consolidation.

Comrades, the Soviet people associate all achievements in communist construction with the acitivty of our glorious Leninist party, whose guiding role grows greater in conditions of developed socialism. You know that the party has now entered a period of preparation for its regular congress. It is a very crucial period and replete with major and, I must say, very strenuous work.

We can see the enthusiasm and inspiration with which Communists and all working people are fighting to duly welcome the congress. The state of affairs at party organizations and in all spheres of economic, social, and political life of the country are being profoundly and comprehensively analyzed. The reasons for existing shortcomings are being determined and ways of further improving the society of developing socialism are being planned.

The development of a new formulation of the program of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union is particularly significant. The fundamental points concerning the preparation of a new edition of the party program are outlined in Comrade Chernenko's article "At the Level of the Requirements of Developed Socialism," published in the journal KOMMUNIST. It summarizes the basic achievements of the collective thought of the party in the development in Marxist-Leninist theory. It points out that the concept of developed socialism represents the basis of the strategy and tactics of the CPSU in contemporary conditions.

The policy of the party is receiving nationwide support. Its slogans find a vital response from the masses. This occurs because the party, guided by Marxist-Leninist theory and creatively developing it, faithfully reflects the interests of the working people. The working class, the kolkhoz peasantry, and the people's intellegentsia perceive the plans of the party as their own and give their efforts, knowledge, and talent to the cause of their implementation. This is the firm guarantee that the major, complex, and crucial tasks put forward by the party for the upcoming period will be successfully fulfilled.

Dear comrades, in conclusion allow me to once again sincerely thank you and all voters of the district for nominating me as candidate deputy of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet and assure you that I will apply all efforts and knowledge to justify this great trust of yours. I wish you new labor successes and that you duly meet the 27th congress of our party with major and good labor successes. [prolonged applause]

MOSCOW RADIO VERSION OF LIGACHEV ELECTION SPEECH

LD011803 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 1 Feb 85

[Text] In Tolyatti today, a meeting was held between the voters of Avtozavodskiy Constituency of Kuybyshev Oblast and Yegor Kuzmich Ligachev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and candidate deputy in the RSFSR Supreme Soviet. Unanimously and with great enthusiasm an honorary presidium was elected consisting of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, headed by Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko.

Malykhin, Hero of Socialist Labor, term leader in the body-assembly productionshop of the "Avtovaz" motor plant, and agent for the candidate deputies, called upon the voters to cast their votes on election day for the candidates of the indestructible block of Communist and nonparty members.

The meeting was addressed by Basin, a power station director; Shiganova, a driver in the street car directorate; (Isakov), general director of the "Avtovaz" association; Bazanova, machinist in the Tolyatti clothing and knitwear factory; Kasitsyna a teacher; and (Muravev), first secretary of the Kyubyshev Party Obkom. They spoke of boundless trust in the native Leninist Party, full support for its home and foreign policy, striving toward high labor achievements to mark the forthcoming 27th CPSU Congress, the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War.

A speech was also made by Yegor Kuzmich Ligachev.

[Begin Ligachev recording] Esteemed comrades. Allow me first to convey to you and to all working people of Kuybyshev Oblast, cordial greetings and best wishes from Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the party Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. [applause]

Konstantin Ustinovich expresses certainty that the labor collectives in the oblast will meet the regular 27th party congress with new achievements in the struggle for successful fulfillment of the tasks set for the current year and for the 5-year plan period as a whole. [applause]

As always, comrades, the election campaign is taking place with great activity from the voters in an atmosphere of free discussion of topical questions with a careful analysis of the activity of all state organs of power. This corresponds wholly to the democratic nature of our society and Lenin's idea that communist construction would, to an increasing extent, become the cause of all the people. The people, implementing the overall completeness of state power through the soviets of people's deputies and the Communist Party as the political vanguard of the people, are united. This is the guarantee and the main source of the enormous durability of the Soviet political system. [applause]

A brilliant demonstration of the unity of the party and people was the unanimous nomination as candidates for the post of deputy of the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR, and the supreme soviets of the other union republics, of Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, and members of the party Central Committee Politburo. In carrying out on behalf of the high interests of Soviet society and the state, the function of general secretary of the party Central Committee, Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, drawing on his enormous political experience, devotes his strength and knowledge to developing and carrying out the course of the party, increasing our homeland's economic and defense might, raising the people's prosperity, and to strengthening the foreign policy position of the Soviet state.

The Soviet political system is the real accelerator of economic progress of the USSR. In life, democratism will never be taken separately: I am quoting the words of Vladimir Ilich Lenin. It will be taken together; it exerts its influence on the economy as well as encourages its transformation, to subject itself to the influence of economic development, and so forth. Such is the dialectic of living history, Vladimir Ilich Lenin said. Lenin's idea of the interaction of economics and democracy is also very topical now, in our time.

Comrades, the main repository of the principles of socialist democracy and the heart of the democratic process, which permeates the life of the Soviet state, of the whole people, is the Communist Party. All its activity is wholly subjugated to serving the basic interests of the working class and all working people. The growth in the leading role of the Communist Party is an indispensable key factor in the deepening and development of socialist democracy. Starting from this premise, the party Central Committee and its Politburo, working on perfecting socialist (?people's) power, constantly pays great attention to questions of party construction, and of the organizational and political consolidation of all elements of the party.

In the period which has elapsed since the 26th party congress, a realistic and at the same time creative approach to problems has become increasingly confirmed in the activity of party organs and organizations. There has been a rise in the level of activity and responsibility of Communists, in their mutual exactingness to each other. The party is strictly following the principle of a systematic renewal of cadres and continuity of leadership. Local leadership has been joined by a big detachment of comrades bringing a breath of fresh air into party work. The practice of adding to party ranks is being improved.

Questions of style and methods of work have been discussed widely and with a sense of involvement in the past year in all links of the party.

In a word, comrades, the multifaceted activity of the party Central Committee is creating all the necessary conditions for the progressive deployment in our society of the natural, objectively conditioned process of the growth of the leading role of our party. This is the main prerequisite, the main guarantee that socialist democracy will continue to develop and be improved just as undeviatingly, that more prospects will be opened up for active, genuine participation in the management of the country by new millions of working people, by every Soviet citizen. [applause] [end recording]

In conclusion, Comrade Ligachev again expressed thanks for the trust placed in him and wished those present great labor achievements in the name of peace and happiness of Soviet people.

While he was in Kuybyshev Oblast, Comrade Ligachev visited the "50-Letiye SSR" Volzhskiy Motor Vehicle plant, the "Komsomolets" Sovkhoz, and a pedigree stockbreeding farm in Kinelskiy Rayon. He familiarized himself with housing and sociocultural construction in the town of Tolyatti and paid visits to working people's apartments, workers' hostels, and to trade and consumer service enterprises. He spoke to the town party aktiv of Kuybyshev Oblast. There was a meeting with members of the obkom buro.

In his conversation with a party and administrative aktiv, with workers in industry and agriculture, with scientists, engineers and designers, there were discussions on questions of organizational and political work for preparing for the 27th CPSU congress, measures to implement the party's course of intensifying the national economy, ways of accelerating scientific and technical progress, more efficient utilization of internal resources of production, development of subsidiary farms belonging to industrial enterprises, and improving the living and consumer standards of citizens.

The secretary of the CPSU Central Committee stressed that it is important for party organizations not to weaken their attention to questions of strengthening discipline, organization, order, development of working people's initiative, and full implementation of socialist self-management in practice.

PRAVDA CARRIES DEMICHEV ACTIVITIES IN YAROSLAVL

PM071216 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 85 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Visit to Yaroslavl"]

[Text] Comrade Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, who is in Yaroslavl, has been meeting the working people of Kirovskiy constituency, for which he has been nominated as candidate for the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Comrade Demichev visited the diesel equipment works, the Dubki Sovkhoz, the Sever Poultry Factory, a house of technology, the state university, and consumer goods and services enterprises; acquainted himself with the work of cultural and artistic institutions; and conversed with the creative intelligentsia.

A meeting with the party and administrative aktiv discussed issues of the oblast's working people fulfilling the plans for the final year of the 5-year plan period, and socialist competition organization in order to worthily meet the 27th CPSU Congress and the 40th anniversary of the great victory.

There was a detailed conversation on topical problems of cultural construction in modern conditions and of putting social development programs into practice.

P.N. Demichev laid flowers by the eternal flame at the monument erected to honor the combat and labor deeds of the people of Yaroslavl during the Great Patriotic War.

P.N. Demichev was accompanied by F.I. Loshchenkov, first secretary of the Yaroslavl CPSU Obkom, and V.I. Popov, chairman of the oblispolkom.

CORRECTION TO RYZHKOV SPEECH IN NOVOSIBIRSK

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Ryzhkov in Novosibirsk," published in the 4 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page R 5, third paragraph, line one:

...Secretary V.G. Shatokhin.

An honorary presidium was elected with enthusiasm consisting of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo with Comrade Chernenko at its head.

The candidate deputy's...(adding paragraph)

LATE REPORT: CHERNENKO REGISTERED AS CANDIDATE

LD081545 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Excerpts] The latest meeting of the Central Electoral Commission on elections to the RSFSR Supreme Soviet took place in the House of Unions in Moscow today. The results of the registration of candidate deputies of the supreme organ of state power of the republic were examined. A report was delivered on this question by Yevgeniy Zotovich Razumov, secretary of the Central Electoral Commission. He reported that registration has been carried out in all 975 districts within the time set and in full accordance with election laws.

Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, outstanding figure of the Communist Party and the Soviet state, of the international communist and workers' movement, was unanimously registered with great enthusiasm and warmth as candidate deputy to the RSFSR Supreme Soviet for the Kuybyshevskiy Electoral District of Moscow.

Over half of all candidates are representatives of the working class and the kolkhoz peasantry. District commissions registered as candidate deputies the representatives of 39 nations and ethnic groups of the Russian Federation; 63.3 percent of registered candidates will be elected to the RSFSR Supreme Soviet for the first time.

TATAR STRAITS SHIP PATH REOPENED BY ICEBREAKERS

LD080012 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 7 Feb 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The path for ships has once again been opened up across the Tatar Straits to ports on Sakhalin and the Okhotsk coast. Long storms and the currents swept ships into many-layered ice hummocks, and unprecedented frosts froze them tight into the ice. Dozens of ships were icebound. Even the giant Sakhalin-type ferries, which for the past 10 navigation seasons plied the Vanino-Kholmsk line right on schedule, were unable to make their way by themselves across the straits. Today the accompanying of cargo vessels was led by the "Yermak," one of the most powerful icebreakers in the Far East. The icebreakers "Vladivostok" and "Moskva" also came to the aid of dry-cargo vessels and tankers. Aircraft and helicopters are carrying out ice surveillance work. Dockers and railway workers in the port of Vanino are operating with efficiency and coordination.

POLLUTION PROMPTS CLOSURE AT LENINGRAD PLANT

PM071208 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 31 January in its Morning Edition carries on page 3 a 1,400-word Leningrad report by own correspondent V. Mikhaylov entitled "Extreme Measure." Mikhaylov tells the tale of inspectors' efforts to shut down a section of the Leningrad Battery Plant which was causing atmospheric pollution "seven times greater than the permissible norm." The report describes the vigorous resistance to the shut-down from the plant management, who said that it effectively meant that the whole plant would have to close down and maintained that the state could not do without the plant's batteries. Mikhaylov stresses the inspectors' adamant insistence that it was in the state interest to shut down the section and that the plant required modernization. The report then discusses the passage of the plant modernization plan which, Mikhaylov says, had to be amended three times before the inspectors were satisfied. The report concludes by stressing the plant staff's appreciation of the inspectors' insistence and the collaboration between the inspectors and the management on the "common task."

BRIEFS

NEW TURKMEN GAS DEPOSIT -- Commercial exploitation has begun of the new gas deposit of Samantepe in northeast Turkmenia. It is one of the largest deposits in the area and is only 30 km from Mubarek Gas Processing Works, to which a pipeline and a permanent settlement are under construction. Four wells have been drilled and a fifth is being drilled now. Samantepe gas will flow along the Central Asia-Center pipeline beginning next year. A drilling official notes that prospecting drilling is being carried out at 13 sites in northeastern Turkmenia. In this 5-year plan, above plan increases in gas reserves of 45 billion cubic meters have been achieved. A further five sites in the region are to be prospected this year. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 5 Feb 85 LD]

BELORUSSIAN OFFICIAL ON LAND IMPROVEMENT TASKS

LD080445 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 7 Feb 85

[From the "Land and People" program]

[Excerpts] Belorussian land improvers are encountering serious difficulties. Here is what Vladimir Iosifovich Pavlyuchuk, the republic's minister of land improvement and water resources told our correspondent, Tatyana Khorovets:

[Begin recording] [Pavlyuchuk] I'll mention just a few figures on land improvement and, more specifically, the need for land improvement. In the republic, one hectare in three is marshy; half the agricultural land is periodically overwatered. In the southern part of the republic, that is the polesye, more than 1 million hectares is entirely inaccessible for agricultural use. It consists of marshes. On overwatered plowland, the loss of grain yield is almost 6-8 quintals from each hectare, while in wet years it sometimes happens that the entire crop is lost. Many settlements and villages become inaccessible in spring and fall because they are bogged down -- yet there are people living there. This is not a complete list of our difficulties in agricultural production, but I think it's enough to prompt the conclusion that land improvement in our republic is a decisive factor in the intensification of agricultural production in the republic.

[Khorovets] And we've already seen that from the examples of many farms.

[Pavlyuchuk] In our republic, 2.8 million hectares of capitally improved land has been handed over to the state and kolkhozes, and they provide one-third of the produce of crop husbandry and more than 40 percent of the feed for livestock farming.

[Khorovets] And these are the most modern farms.

[Pavlyuchuk] Of course. They have spendid amenities and good residential settlements. Altogether, a person living there feels like a city dweller. But, unfortunately, there are examples of poor use of improved lands. Over the last few years, the productivity of improved lands has not been increasing. For this, our republic has been justly criticized in speeches by Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the October plenum.

[Khorovets] Vladimir Iosifovich, at the recent expanded collegium of your ministry, reports were heard from land improvers from the localities. They spoke with great interest of a how to better utilize improved lands. In particular, they devoted much attention to the operation of land improvement systems.

[Pavlyuchuk] Yes, indeed. Year after year, we are becoming convinced that correct operation of land improvement systems has, I would say, a great influence on the better use of land allotments. In the republic, there are more than 700,000 km of drainage-collector networks. Of these, 150,000 km are open canals; there are about 20,000 locks and regulating installations; hundreds of km of protective dams; and a large number of pumping stations. And, of course, if any element of that list falls into disrepair, then the water regime of the soil is disturbed and, consequently, crop yields decline. That is why quite a lot has been done in the republic, and much still remains to be done, to improve the organization and maintenance of land improvement systems.

For instance, we have widely introduced operation of kolkhoz and sovkhoz networks by the inter-rayon directorates of drainage systems of our water resources organizations on contract principles with the kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

This is very important, since two-thirds of the balance cost of all land improvement systems is with the kolkhozes and sovkhozes. Last year, for example, maintenance of 87 percent of the water resources network was taken over by the water resources organizations. Some large and quite difficult tasks lie ahead of us in the 12th 5-Year Plan. We have to hand over to the kolkhozes and sovkhozes more than 480,000 hectares of drained land. But the most important thing is that we must obtain from the improved lands, by 1990, about 1.6 million metric tons of grain. All this will certainly ensure that the capital investments are recouped in 8 years as planned. [end recording]

LATE JAN, EARLY FEB WEATHER, CROPS STATUS REVIEWED

PM071059 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 6 Feb 85 p 1

[Agrometeorologist T. Ivashneva report under the rubric "The USSR Hydrometeorological Center Reports": "The Weather and the Crops"]

[Text] Despite severe frosts, the overwintering of winter crops is proceding well in most places. Deep snow (30-60 cm) is protecting plants from frost damage. Minimum soil temperature at tillering node depth and at the root neck depth in grasses was between minus 3 and minus 7 degrees. Low temperatures (minus 36 to minus 40 degrees on the snow surface) in the Northwest Region, over most of the Central, the east of the Central Chernozem, and the northern half of the Baltic, Volga-Vyatka, and Volga Regions have caused partial damage to fruit and leaf buds on fruit trees. In some places damage to the tips of exposed raspberry shoots was observed.

The weather was very warm in Krasnodar Kray and Crimea Oblast. On some days air temperatures rose during the day to between 13 and 17 degrees; winter grain crop vegetation resumed and biological processes in fruit trees were activated. However, at the beginning of February temperatures dropped in the extreme south of the Ukraine and the Crimea.

Over most of the USSR's European territory precipitation occurred frequently (on 5-8 days during the 10-day period). Over the 10-day period precipitation totaled 11-35 mm, and up to 45 mm in some places, which is close to the long-term average, and double and triple the long-term average in some places. Snow fell again at the beginning of February, and in some places the amounts were considerable. As a result the snow cover extended further south. By 3 February only the Crimea, the Black Sea coast of Krasnoadar Kray and the Caucasus, and the west coast of the Caspian were snow-free. Over most of the USSR's European territory the snow is more than 20 cm deep.

Unusually warm weather for the time of year prevailed in most agricultural regions of Siberia and the northern half of Kazakhstan. Air temperatures exceeded the long-term average by 6-8 degrees. On some days air temperatures rose during the day to 1-4 degrees. However, considerable falls in temperature were also recorded in these regions. The frosts presented no danger to winter grain crops and perennial grasses. The fields are safely covered by deep snow (20-40 cm and more), and the minimum temperature at tillering node depth was at its optimum (minus 7 to minus 10 degrees).

In Central Asian republics it was warm. Average air temperatures for the 10-day period exceeded the long-term average by 1-3 degrees. In Turkmenia and Tajikistan, where air temperatures rose during the day to 14-18 degrees, and 20 degrees in some places, winter grain crops and grasses were growing, and over the remaining territory of Central Asia they were in a state of winter dormancy. Hydrometeorological stations in Central Asian republics forced the growth of samples of fruit tree branches, revealing that as a result of the abnormally cold weather in December and January, drupaceous crops and vines overwintering in the open suffered damage in a number of places.

RSFSR GOVERNMENT URGES IMPROVED STOCKRAISING

PM071013 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 6 Feb 85 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "At the RSFSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] Over the last few years the RSFSR's kolkhozes and sovkhozes have increased the production and sale to the state of milk and beef and improved cow productivity. Numbers of purebred livestock are growing and new pedigree farms are being created. At the same time, by no means are all opportunities being utilized. The RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium examined the question of measures to increase the intensification of dairy stockraising by improving herd reproduction. It was noted that the kolkhozes and sovkhozes of a number of oblasts, krays, and ASSR's the average annual volume of milk and beef production in the 11th 5-Year Plan fell. Low cow productivity remains the major shortcoming. One of the main reasons for this is poor work on herd reproduction. Owing to inadequate feeding and the low level of veterinary services, particularly for stock breeding, a considerable proportion of cows fails to produce offspring. The unsatisfactory veterinary and sanitary state of livestock units has an adverse influence on herd reproduction. Specialists and economic leaders in a number of oblasts devote little attention to improving the breed qualities of livestock and developing the pedigreee base of stock-raising.

The RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium instructed the republic's agricultural organs, scientists, and specialists to develop a scientifically substantiated program for further intensifying stock-raising by improving herd reproduction and outlined specific ways of eradicting the shortcomings that had been revealed. The Presidium session examined the question of the progress of livestock wintering on the republic's kolkhozes and sovkhozes. Since the start of the stalling period milk and egg production has increased and most meat production has fallen. Particularly large reductions have been permitted by farms in Kalinin and Volgograd Olbasts and the Dagestan ASSR. It was stressed that the livestock wintering has entered the most difficult period and it is necessary to bring all reserves into play, raise specialists' role, strengthen discipline, and increase personal responsibility for plan fulfillment in each section of the sector.

Sharp criticisms were voiced at the RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium during the examination of the question of serious shortcomings in the work of the republic's Ministry of the Fish Industry to farm fish in ponds. Some 2 years ago the USSR's People's Control Committee and later the RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium revealed major shortcomings. It has now been noted that the targets set for the production of marketable fish are still not being fulfilled. The state has been undersupplied with large quantities of fish in the first 4 years of the 5-year plan. The capital investments allocated for the construction of fish farms are not being fully assimilated and certain projects are being commissioned with great defects. Mismanagement is permitted in the utilization of pond resources and in fish farming in Bryansk, Kaluga, Kuybyshev, Kursk, and Rostov Oblasts and the capacities for producigng marketable fish are being inadequately used. The RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium drew the attention of Comrade Peresypkin, minister of the fish industry, to the serious omissions in his work to lead the development of fish farming.

Questions of the progress of preparation for the spring sowing on Ulyanovsk Oblast kolkhozes and sovkhozes and of the proposals and remarks expressed at ministry and department collegium sessions during the examination of the results of work for 1984 were also discussed.

The Presidium session was chaired by V.I. Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers.

MILITARY LEADERS SIGN RETIRED GENERAL'S OBITUARY

PM081019 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Feb 85 Second Edition p 4

[N.M. Popov obituary]

[Excerpts] Colonel General Nikolay Mikhaylovich Popov, retired, veteran of the Soviet Armed Forces, Hero of Socialist Labor, and RSFSR honored construction worker, has died in his 82d year after a long and serious illness.

V.I. Petrov, A.A. Yepishev, V.F. Tolubko, B.V. Bakin, N.V. Goldin, N.F. Shestopalov, I.N. Shkadov, V.I. Bychenko, V.N. Dutov, K.M. Vertelov, A.G. Karaoglanov, V.I. Ivankov, M.P. Klimov, S.A. Spirin, A.F. Fedorov, A.A. Sazonov, K.I. Mukhin, N.V. Chekhov, G.P. Komarov, Ye.I. Maykov, M.G. Grigorenko, M.L. Shtern.

YEPISHEV PRESENTS AWARD TO MILITARY ARTISTS

PM071456 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Feb 85 Second Edition p 3

[Unnamed own correspondent report: "Award Presentation"]

[Excerpts] For its services to the development of Soviet fine arts and its great contribution to the military-patriotic education of working people and USSR Armed Forces servicemen, the M.B. Grekov Military Artists Studio has been awarded the Order of the Labor Red Banner in accordance with the 28 November 1984 USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree.

A ceremony was held yesterday in the M.V. Frunze Central House of the Soviet Army devoted to the studio's 50th anniversary and the presentation to it of the Order of the Labor Red Banner. This is the second award to the collective of battle painters, which was previously awarded the Order of the Red Star in 1965.

Army General A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, and O. Ivanov, chief of a sector of a CPSU Central Committee section, attended the meeting.

With great enthusiasm the meeting participants adopted a greetings letter to the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Comrade K.U. Chernenko.